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CHINA PLAYS DOWN REPORTS OF FLU OUTBREAK, SAYS IT'S SAFE TO VISIT

China's foreign ministry said there is no massive flu outbreak in the country and that its hospitals are not overwhelmed by the influx of flu patients

'RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS LESS THIS YEAR'

"Respiratory infections tend to peak during the winter season in the northern hemisphere," Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told reporters in Beijing in response to a question on the spread of Human Metapneumovirus and influenza A. "The diseases appear to be less severe and spread with a smaller scale compared to the previous year," she said

INDIA ALERT, CLOSELY MONITORING SITUATION

- The National Centre for Disease Control under the Union health ministry said it is closely monitoring influenza cases in the country, and is in touch with international agencies in the wake of reports of an outbreak of the Human Metapneumovirus in China
- Officials said there is no substantial increase in flu infections in India

HMPV

IS LIKE ANY OTHER RESPIRATORY VIRUS WHICH CAUSES COMMON COLD

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

SBI RESEARCH

Rural poverty fell to record low of 4.86% in FY24: Report

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mumbai

HIGHER consumption in the lowest 0-5% decile and government support programmes have significantly brought down poverty in India — both rural and urban — an SBI research report released on Friday said.

Rural poverty crashed to 4.86% in FY24 from a high level of 25.7% in 2011-12, while urban poverty dropped to 4.09% from 13.7% in the same period, the report noted. In FY23, rural and urban poverty rates were 7.2% and 4.6%, respectively.

"The sharp decline in rural poverty ratio is on account of higher consumption growth in lowest 0-5 per cent decile with significant government support and such support is important as we also find that change in food prices has a significant impact on not just food expenditures, but overall expenditure in general," the report said extrapolating the latest Household Consumption Expenditure Survey released by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. The survey showed that consumption inequality in both rural and urban areas declined during the August 2023-July 2024 period compared to a year ago.

According to Soumyakanti Ghosh, group chief economic advisor at SBI, urban poverty could decline further.

"At an aggregate level, we believe poverty rates in India could now be in the range of 4-4.5% with almost minimal existence of extreme poverty," the report said.

Govt notifies draft rules for digital privacy

Children aged below 18 need parental consent to create social media accounts

NO MENTION OF PENALTY CLAUSE

The draft Digital Personal Data Protection Rules don't mention penalties that were approved under the 2023 Act, which had a provision to impose a penalty of up to ₹250 crore on data fiduciaries in case of personal data breach

DATA OF INACTIVE USERS TO BE DELETED

If a company collects your data for a specific purpose but you don't use it for a certain period, then it must delete your data. However, before deleting the data, the company must notify you 48 hours in advance

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

CHILDREN under 18 will require parental consent to create social media accounts, according to the new draft regulations for the Digital Personal Data Protection Act. If data fiduciaries—entities that process data—transfer Indians' personal data abroad, they will have to strictly comply with some additional rules set by the Central government.

The draft, titled Digital Personal Data Protection Act 2025 and released by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) on Friday, provides for the government and its agencies to process Indians' personal data in order to give subsidies, benefits, services, certificates, licences, or permits. The draft, which outlines how companies and government agencies should handle digital personal data, is open for consultation till February 18.

As per the draft rules, any company or organisation using personal data must seek the individual's consent. They must clearly inform the individuals (data principals) about the purpose of data processing. Also, they need to provide a detailed description of the goods or services that will be offered.

The draft norms say data fiduciaries must implement reasonable security measures to protect personal data, such as encryption, access control, monitoring for unauthorised access, and data backups. In the event of a data breach, the data processing entity must promptly notify all affected individuals.

Under the new regulation, children below 18 years will need their parents' consent to create social media accounts on platforms such as Instagram and Facebook. When collecting a child's personal data, the data fiduciary must obtain verifiable consent from the parent. To ensure this, the company must verify the parent's identity and age using reliable sources, such as government-issued IDs or digital locker services.

State's demand for energy to go up by 5% this summer

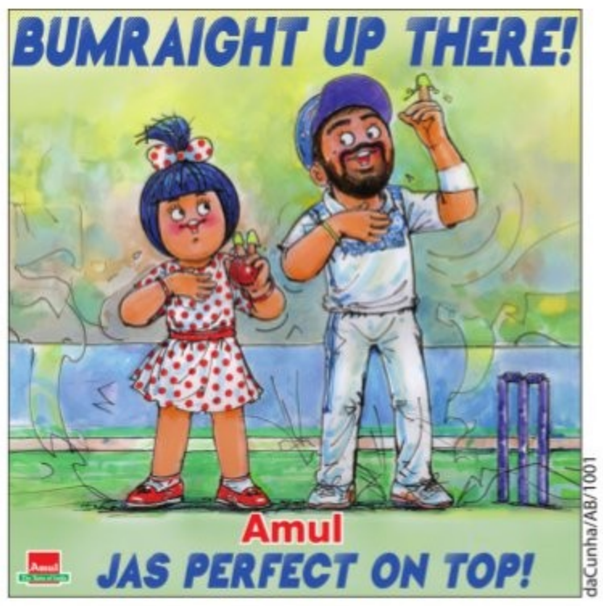
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE energy department has forecast a rise in demand for power by at least 5% in the coming days in view of increasing temperatures.

A team from the department also forecast that the demand would go up to at least 340 million units a day during the first six months of 2025.

"While last year, the demand was less because of a good monsoon, this time, we are expecting it to go up. During 2023-24, we saw a peak demand of 17,220 MW. This year, we are expecting it to increase to 18,000 MW in the first six months," a senior official told TNIE. This was discussed with Energy Minister KJ George on Friday at a review meeting. The department will depend more on hydel power stations this year, the official said.

"Power purchase agreements, which Karnataka had with other states, will also be utilised. They will first be utilised during early days of summer. We have appealed to farmers to install solar-based irrigation pumpsets so that the load on the grid is managed effectively," the official said. P5



One of the sites suggested to former PM Manmohan Singh's family for his memorial | PARVEZ SULTAN

GOVT AWAITS FAMILY'S WORD ON MEMORIAL SITE

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

TWO adjoining sites measuring about 2,000 sq ft each within the Rashtriya Smriti Sthal in the Capital await approval from former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's family to house his memorial. They are yet to pick one.

After the visit of senior officials of the ministry of housing and urban affairs, the staff on Wednesday cleaned up the spots and pruned the grass there. According to the officials, an estimate of construction has been prepared and the allotment formalities will be initiated once they get word from Singh's family.

Spread over about 45 acres, the Rashtriya Smriti Sthal complex is sandwiched between Ring Road and Salimgarh bypass along the Yamuna bank.

The two sites are next to the memorial of P V Narasimha Rao. They are surrounded by paved pathways and flanked by the memorials of former presidents and prime ministers Zail Singh, Shankar Dayal Sharma, R Venkataraman, K R Narayanan, Chandra Shekhar and I K Gujral. The Sthal also has Sadaiv Atal, a memorial park where former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee was cremated.

SPOT THE SITES

1. Atal Bihari Vajpayee's memorial
2. P V Narasimha Rao's memorial
3. R Venkataraman Samadhi
4,5: Vacant sites suggested to Manmohan Singh's family for building his memorial
6. I K Gujral's memorial

The staff posted at the Sthal was expecting a visit by Singh's family on Friday. However, no information was available about the visit till late evening.

This newspaper had on Thursday reported that the government had decided to allocate land to a trust to be set up for the construction and maintenance of Singh's memorial after receiving approval from his family.

"The trust to be set up in Manmohan Singh's name will build the memorial. The response of the family is awaited. The allotment formalities can only be initiated after the constitution of the trust. It may take about a week. This has been the practice. In the case of Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a trust in his name had already existed. A senior official of the ministry was on Thursday entrusted with the task to inform the family about the possible location of Singh memorial," said officials.

The Congress veteran passed away on December 26 and his funeral took place three days later at Nigambodh Ghat. After Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge sought space for a memorial, the Union Cabinet set the ball rolling. In 2013, the then government had resolved not to allow separate memorials for dignitaries near Rajghat because of scarcity of space.

EXPRESS READ

Fate of Nimisha Priya hangs in balance

New Delhi: The fate of Nimisha Priya, a nurse from Kerala who is on death row in Yemen, remains uncertain as efforts to contact the family of the Yemeni national she is accused of murdering, to offer blood money, have not yet been successful. Priya, who hails from Kollengode in Palakkad district, was arrested in August 2017, and in 2020, a court in Sanaa sentenced her to death | P9

Woman jumps off auto as driver takes different route

Bengaluru: A 30-year-old woman jumped off a moving autorickshaw when the driver took a different route in the city on Thursday. Amruthahalli police arrested the driver, who was said to be drunk, on Friday. The incident came to light after her husband's social media post, tagging the city police. The woman had booked the auto on the Namma Yatri app | P3

FIERY

PROTEST TO BHOPAL TOXIC WASTE

A leaderless protest in Madhya Pradesh's Pithampur town against the transport of Union Carbide's toxic waste from Bhopal, became fiery as two protesters sustained burns after attempting self-immolation | P10

Creating counties in Ladakh unacceptable: India to China

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

NEW Delhi has lodged a "solemn protest" with Beijing against its creation of two new counties last month in Hotan prefecture, as parts of these regions fall within the Union territory of Ladakh.

New Delhi also conveyed its concerns to Beijing about China's plan to build a massive hydropower dam in Tibet on the Yarlung Zangbo river, which flows into India. The Yarlung Zangbo becomes the Brahmaputra as it exits Tibet and flows south into Arunachal Pradesh and Assam before entering Bangladesh.

In a strong response, External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the creation of new counties will not affect India's long-standing and consistent position on its sovereignty over the region, nor will it legitimise China's "illegal and forcible" occupation of the area.

"We have seen the announcement pertaining to the establishment of two new counties in Hotan Prefecture of China. Parts of jurisdiction of these so-called counties fall in India's Union Territory of Ladakh," he said, adding: "We have never accepted the illegal Chinese occupation of Indian territory in this area."

China's state-owned media Xinhua reported on December 27 that the government of northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region announced the establishment of two new counties in the region — He'an County and Hekang County. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and the State Council approved them, it said.

As for the dam, "The Chinese side has been urged to ensure that the interests of downstream states are not harmed," Jaiswal said. "We will continue to monitor and take necessary measures to protect our interests," he added.

CLASH OF EMOTIONS

Late on Day 1 of the final Test in Sydney, emotions took centre stage when Jasprit Bumrah was visibly upset with Australian opener Usman Khwaja for taking too much time to face the ball. Sam Konstas, at the non-striker's end, got involved as tempers flared before Bumrah had Khwaja's wicket off the last ball of the day | AP | P15

Nadda: Integrated health policy soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

INDIA is set to launch a new health policy that will bring together yoga, ayurveda, and naturopathy with modern medicine, Union Health Minister JP Nadda said on Friday.

He was speaking at a function to inaugurate S-VYASA Deemed-to-be University -- School of Advanced Studies (Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana) campus at Sattva Global City IT Park.

Nadda said this change will help create a healthier future for generations to come and highlighted the need of more institutes such as S-VYASA university, which not only offers courses in engineering, computer applications, and management, but also focuses on yoga, naturopathy, and ayurveda for the comprehensive development of students.

Minister JP Nadda speaks at a function to inaugurate S-VYASA Deemed-to-be University in Bengaluru on Friday

Nadda highlighted how yoga can work alongside modern science to shape a better future and lauded institutes such as S-VYASA for their role in promoting this blend of ancient wisdom with contemporary health practices. Nadda also highlighted the growing importance of yoga and ayurveda worldwide, with S-VYASA's influence now reaching 30 countries.

Referring to major initiatives in the health sector by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he said 22 All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) are now functioning across the country. All AIIMS now have separate AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy) blocks across the country. "This reflects the government's effort to ensure that traditional systems of medicine are included in modern healthcare education and treatment," he added.

After bus fare, K'taka govt mulls ₹3-5 hike in milk price

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A DAY after its decision to increase fares of four state-owned road transport corporations (RTCs), the Siddaramaiah government is planning to hike prices of milk. There are 16 milk unions under KMF and nearly 40 lakh dairy farmers in the state. On an average, one crore litres of milk is procured daily, making Karnataka a top state in dairy farming. Earlier, Siddaramaiah hinted at a milk price hike.

Minister for Animal Husbandry K Venkatesh told *TNIE* on Friday that there is pressure from dairy farmers and other stakeholders to increase milk prices. "They want the price to be increased by ₹8 to ₹10 a litre. The reasons they stated are prices of fodder and other essentials for dairy farming have gone up. We may have to take a call soon," he said.

He said he would consult the CM before taking a decision. "We have not decided whether to increase it by ₹3 or ₹5, but we have a demand to increase it by ₹10," he added. On when the decision would be taken, he said soon, adding that ahead of its budget, the government should have clarity on its revenue.

ALMANAC TODAY

Saturday: 04.01.2025 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Dakshinayana • Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Pausha • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Panchami 10.55 pm • Nakshatra: Sathabhisha 10.43 pm • Moon in Meena Rashi • Rahukaala: 09:00 am to 10:30 am • Gulikakala: 06:00 am to 07:30 am • Yamaganda: 01:49 pm to 03:26 pm

WEATHER

MIN 11°C | MAX 27°C

FORECAST: Scattered clouds

Sunrise 06.43 am | Sunset 06.06 pm | Moonrise 10.14 am | Moonset 10.20 pm

Metro fares likely to rise by 20% from Jan 18

BMRCL Board to meet on January 17 for approval; Previous price hike of 10-15% was effected on June 18, 2017

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

CLOSE on the heels of BMTC announcing a fare hike of 15%, Bengaluru Metro which has emerged as a crucial public transport system for the city, is also likely to increase its fare from January 18. The Fare Fixation Committee, appointed to revise the fare structure, has recommended a hike of nearly 20% in its final report submitted to the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) a couple of days ago, said sources. This needs to be approved by the BMRCL Board, which meets on January 17.

A reliable source told *TNIE*, "The Committee was appointed under the Metro Act 2002 and its recommendations are binding on BMRCL. The Board is likely to approve it as the fare is being hiked after seven-and-a-half years. This cannot be viewed as a substantial hike if we consider the fact that the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in the country has gone up by 45% in the years following the previous hike."

The previous hike of 10-15% was effected on June 18, 2017. The minimum fare on Namma Metro's 76.95-km network is Rs 10 at present and the maximum fare is Rs 60 with travel card users given a 5% discount on it.

The three-member committee is headed by retired Madras High Court judge Justice R Tharani and its members are Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Satyendra Pal Singh and former Additional Chief Secretary, Karnataka, EV Ramana Reddy. It had a deadline of December 15, 2024 to submit its recommendations and it sought two weeks to submit its final report.

The committee had visited Delhi, Singapore and Hong Kong Metro networks to study their fare structure and the revision methodology being followed by the respective Metro Rail systems.

BMRCL MD Maheshwar Rao declined to speak about the proposed hike despite multiple calls and messages. The committee members too chose to remain tightlipped about the report.

The huge investment in expanding the network, the interest being paid to all funding agencies and banks, the monthly operational cost of nearly Rs 50 crore (inclusive of the Rs 7 crore monthly expense incurred to provide security at its stations and trains), maintenance incurred on its network and salaries of staff have all been taken into consideration while recommending the revision, it is understood.

"If the public want the quality of service provided by BMRCL to continue, then they must be willing to pay for it. If the fare is not hiked then the State government only will have to bear the losses incurred as the centre will not fund operational costs," said another source.

LAW AND ORDER

Crime detection must improve, cyber crime cops need tech skills

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

STARTING Point 2025

AS we step into 2025, the state's policing infrastructure remains a key priority for law enforcement agencies, especially with rising challenges in detecting crimes, particularly cyber crimes. Experts say the government must prioritize recruitment and stress the need for a multi-faceted approach, combining technology, manpower and specialized units to ensure public safety and create a secure environment across the state.

BNS Reddy, former Inspector General of Police (IGP), said police officers should be trained effectively to detect and solve cases. The state's detection rate in all crimes, including cyber crime, needs to improve. "Police need to strengthen the system by hiring technically proficient staff and upgrading basic infrastructure. In cyber crime cases, the modus operandi of criminals ranges from anything to everything. Regular police officers often lack the expertise required to detect and solve such cases," the retired officer said, suggesting that cyber crime police should be technically skilled to address these challenges effectively. "While police may report cyber crime cases, they often fail to detect and investigate them thoroughly, eventually filing a 'C' report," he added.

He further noted that earlier, crimes were detected without the aid of CCTV cameras or call data records (CDR), thanks to the professional skills of the police. "However, with advancements in technology, the installation of AI-enabled cameras to aid in crime detection, prevention and traffic management has gained significance. All crime-prone areas should be equipped with such cameras, and adequate surveillance should be implemented in commercial complexes, residential areas, and on roads to enhance public safety," he opined.

A serving officer, on condition of anonymity, stressed the need to hold frequent refresher courses for policemen to upgrade their skills. "Though there are mid-career training programmes, the staff get little scope to learn. Also, there is a casual approach in the staff who attend these programmes. The department should offer frequent courses, as the nature of crimes is changing fast. Experts should be called to share their views and help the staff upgrade their skills."

KS Vimala, a women's rights activist, stressed that women's safety should be paramount for any government. "While police play a crucial role in preventing crimes against women, the legal system should be further strengthened to take cases related to women to its logical end, swiftly," she opined.

She added that when it comes to women's safety, police cannot rely solely on CCTV surveillance. "Instead, a comprehensive approach is required, including massive awareness campaigns against crimes, speedy trials, and guaranteed punishment for offenders. Gender sensitization training for police officers is critical to ensure they respond appropriately when women seek help. There must also be a focus on recruiting officers who demonstrate gender sensitivity and sensibility," she added.

EXPRESS READ

Identify roads for street trading: BBMP chief

Bengaluru: BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath instructed the officials to identify the roads where street trading can be allowed as per the guidelines in the Western zone. While receiving complaints from the public at the 'Chief Commissioner's Walk in the Zone' in the Western Zone on Friday, the street traders appealed to him not to create any problems until the trading zone is identified. Responding to this, Girinath said that about 7,000 street traders have already been identified in the Western Zone. The work of identifying vending zones is underway by the corporation. In this regard, he instructed the officials to check which roads can be used for trading and allow street traders to trade until the vending zone is identified. "It should be identified on which roads street vendors can do business. Mark the boundary on the footpath so that pedestrians do not face any problem," said the chief commissioner to officials.

KREDL presents ₹40.53 crore cheque to CM

Bengaluru: Energy Minister KJ George presented a dividend cheque of Rs 40,53,59,320, earned during the financial year 2023-24, to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday. Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Limited (KREDL) recorded a net profit of ₹135.12 crore in 2023-24, declaring a 30% dividend amounting to Rs 40,53,59,320. The Chief Minister received the cheque for the dividend amount at his office in Vidhana Soudha. T.D. Rajegowda, MLA, and Chairman, KREDL, Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary, Energy Department, and K.P. Rudrappaiah, Managing Director, KREDL, were present.

Traffic diversions for Chitra Santhe

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

ON account of Chitrakala Parishat organising the 22nd Chitra Santhe at Kumara Krupa Road on Sunday, city traffic police issued an advisory. From 6 am to 9 pm, all types of vehicle movement on both sides of the road are prohibited from Windsor Manor Junction to Shivananda Circle. The police have appealed to the citizens coming to the programme to avail public transport due to shortage of parking space.

Premises of Karnataka Chitrakala Parishat being spruced up for Chitra Santhe on Friday. The fair is held on first Sunday of January every year | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Traffic Diversions:

- Vehicles coming from Maurya Junction and Anand Rao Circle towards Windsor Manor should move straight at Race View Jn. on Race Course Road – Trilight Jn - Basaveshwara Circle – Old High Grounds Jn. - T. Chowdaiah Road – Windsor Manor and move further ahead.
- Vehicles coming from T Chowdaiah Road towards KK Road has to move straight further from Windsor Junction reach Old High Ground Junction-LRDE-Right Turn - Basaveshwara Junction and move further.
- Vehicle from Old High Grounds Junction moving towards Windsor Manor Junction has to move straight from Windsor Manor towards RP Road and move further.
- Vehicles from Nehru Circle move towards Shivananda Junction to reach the Trilight Junction can move straight from Nehru circle move on Steel Bridge and reach Trilight Junction and move further.
- Vehicles from Maurya Junction and Anand Rao Circle to reach KK Road from Race View Junction and Trilight junction need to move straight towards Trilight Junction-Basaveshwara Junction and move further.
- Vehicles coming from PG Halli and going towards Shivananda Circle should move towards Old High Grounds Jn., - L.R.D.E. Jn.- Basaveshwara Circle – Race Course Road-Trilight Jn and further ahead.

Parking for four wheelers

- Railway Parallel Road
- Crescent Road (from Gururaja Kalyanamantapa - Hotel Janardhan on western side)
- Race Course Road (from Trilight Junction- Maurya Circle on eastern side)

RURAL STUDENTS HIT JACKPOT IN DARK SKY, TO BE TRAINED IN ASTRONOMY

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

WITH sky gazing and astro-tourism picking up, chances of gazing at the sky unhindered in urban areas is becoming difficult. But rural areas offer unlimited opportunities.

Making the most of large swathes of dark sky in rural areas, the Indian Institute of Astrophysics signed a memorandum of understanding with the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj department to encourage people, especially students, to take interest in astronomy and astronomical activities. For this, 5,880 libraries, called Arivu Kendras or Gram Panchayat libraries, will be utilised.

"The libraries are operated by the government. We will train and mentor the library supervisors or librarians on how to guide people/ students in sky gazing, what to see in the night sky and understand what they are seeing. We will help people in rural areas understand and learn about the sky," an IIA official told *TNIE*.

This is the first time such an exercise is being undertaken. The training and dissemination of knowledge will be in the Kannada spoken in that region, for easy understanding of the people, especially children. As all libraries now have computers and active internet connections, literature and other educational astronomy material will be given in Kannada, the official added.

The MoU was signed by Annapurni Subramaniam, director of IIA, and Arundhati Chandrashekar, commissioner, Karnataka Panchayat Raj Commissionerate, RDPR, on Friday. "The aim being to enable the two organisations to work together to provide information to the communities in Kannada, on astronomy events that can be seen with the naked eye, as well as details about quotidian astronomy. Library supervisors will be trained to conduct low cost hands-on activities for the public, especially students. Online interactions in the form of talks, contests and digital tools will also be promoted in libraries," RDPR officials said.

Urban pollution and increased lighting has made sky gazing impossible in urban areas. Due to this, sky gazing tours have becoming a trend and people are taken on 2-3 days' trips only for astronomical activities. But in rural areas, there is no such problem as the dark sky is large.

The aim of the exercise is to help rural folk make the most of it. Gradually, over time, telescopes and other sky gazing equipment will also be provided in libraries, after staffers are well trained. This will also be based on demand. Promoting astronomy and science, will lead to increased science literacy, Arundhati Chandrashekar said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

04TH January: The bad news from space at the moment is that we still can't arrange proper backing to preparations for a space probe to Pluto, the most distant and enigmatic planet. Astrologers everywhere are longing to have a closer look at this mysterious body, me more than most. Let's hope it happens soon.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20) — Although some people are inventive, others are belligerent. You'd be advised to watch your wallet and think very long and hard before making any rash commitments, especially financial ones. You don't want to say 'yes' now, only to end up letting someone down.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21) — Venus' relationship with passionate Pluto is certainly stormy. You would be well advised to adopt a posture of considerable caution unless, that is, you are prepared for all the consequences. Only make decisive moves if you're ready for anything!

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) — Secret and hidden resentment is your enemy. You see, long-forgotten frustrations may build up to the point where you blow up at completely the wrong person. Channel your righteous anger into selfless purposes, and always try to give partners and rivals the benefit of the doubt.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) — The strongest planetary alignment in your chart suggests a combination of creative passion and social ambition. Woe betide the person who stands in your way! They are likely to find that you are much tougher than they thought. A word of advice: steer clear of financial risks.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23) — Partners and loved ones still hold the key to your happiness. Also, recent unexpected developments at work don't seem to have upset your confidence. It seems that it's undercurrents in your personal life which pose the greatest threat, and complacency your major enemy.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23) — News from overseas, which should arrive over the next few days, may cause you to catch your breath. Travelling and other adventurous Virgos may expect excitement but should take absolutely nothing for granted. In addition to which, you'll put in any effort to make sure that partners are happy and healthy.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23) — Any financial commitment may be about to grow out of all proportion to the original aim. Only by savage pruning at the roots will you guarantee that potentially escalating costs can be cut. You'll probably be taking some radical, even shocking, decisions next week.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) — No matter how trying or upsetting the situation becomes, you must take very great care on the home front and consider the matter very carefully before sounding off. It is impossible to predict the outcome your actions may have on someone else's feelings or behaviour.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22) — Your chart is showing spectacular developments. With some wonderful planetary aspects now in operation, you are primed to achieve a great deal indeed. If possible, keep your end up by demonstrating to all and sundry that you are no stranger to hard work and high principles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20) — Feelings are running high and you'll be in a mood to take risks. I think you're in a strong position, but beware of false confidence, because there'll be times when you pick up the wrong end of the stick. Harmless adventures may be best. Keep an eye on your wallet.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19) — You have a tendency to imagine that you can do without the support and co-operation of close friends and loved ones. Right now you're liable to swing between never wanting to have anything to do with somebody ever again and making a total, life-long commitment.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20) — There's no reason why you should take all the responsibility, and nobody can complain if you decide to leave awkward issues to others. If you're feeling introverted or withdrawn, it's probably because you need some space and time on your own to think things over.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle ⬇

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8		7			4			
	7				3	9	5	
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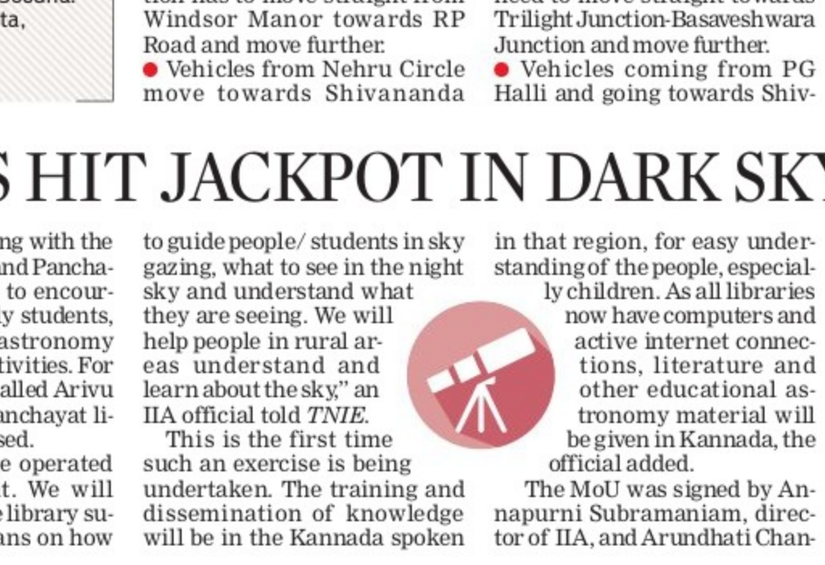
7	4	9	1	6	5	2	8	3
1	7	2	5	8	6	4	3	9
9	8	5	3	1	4	7	2	6
4	3	6	9	2	7	5	1	8
2	5	7	6	4	8	3	9	1
3	6	4	2	9	1	8	7	5
8	9	1	7	5	3	6	4	2

SUDOKU MEDIUM

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Girl with fish to sell down the river (6)
4 Branch is not on fire (8)
9 Bill comes back with a new coil of fabric (6)
10 Prior is a clergyman in a religious setting (8)
12 Freight unopened in Jason's ship (4)
13 Figure it looks like a quiet copy (5)
14 Father to the French wife of a German husband? (4)
17 Telephone booths? (12)
20 Unstable gambling den? (5,2,5)
23 Still equal (4)
24 Ancient characters around Omagh? (5)
25 Course for an ethnic group (4)
28 I respect newly presented evidence of settlements (8)
29 Policeman determined to evade responsibility (3,3)
30 It's inclined to lie low if troubles intervene (8)
31 Pastel composition used in the dining room (6)

DOWN

1 Through luck perhaps (2,6)
2 Reg gets entangled with metal wire (8)
3 Chief means of support (4)
5 A company offer of a certain kind? (4,8)
6 Husband to rescue (4)
7 Do sour ingredients make scents? Yes! (6)
8 Sit out with a girl in gauzy fabric (6)
11 Limited in one's outlook (5-7)
15 Rose paid for the drinks (5)
16 The length a boxer will go to (5)
18 Rash action of convicts? (5-3)
19 It will contain a fire (8)
21 Examine closely for fallen arches (6)
22 Eyebrow-raising writer (6)
26 They went to market on foot (4)
27 Sort of music showing spirit? (4)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Waste, 4 Jubilee, 8 Tea, 9 Abdicates, 10 Athlete, 11 Level, 13 Entree, 15 Agenda, 18 Amiss, 19 Arising, 21 Headdress, 23 Ace, 24 Scruple, 25 Tiers.

Down: 1 Wattage, 2 Spaghetti, 3 Evade, 4 Judges, 5 Backlog, 6 Lot, 7 Easel, 12 Vindicate, 14 Eased up, 16 Anglers, 17 Raceme, 18 Ashes, 20 Inset, 22 Air.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

PTZOA

PRVEI

UNMFIF

SWLEIY

I always love dishes that make your mouth feel like it's the first time it's tasted food.
Here's to trying something new!
I love your attitude!
THE CHEF WHO ENJOYED USING SEASONINGS TO CREATE BOLD FLAVORS HAD A ---
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PATIO SOUPY HUMANE GENDER
Answer: For the Jumble's play on words to make sense, the creators need — GOOD "PUNMANSHIP"

Five schoolchildren sustained injuries when a goods carrier they were travelling in toppled at Kolala in Koratagere taluk on Friday evening. Teachers of the Government Higher Primary School in Chimpuganahalli had taken around 60 students in the goods carrier on a picnic to M H Marigowda horticultural farm in Doddasaggere village. The vehicle toppled when it was returning. The tahsildar said action will be taken against the teachers concerned who had ignored the safety of the children

Woman jumps out as auto driver goes off route

Husband posts about her ordeal on X, cops book driver; vehicle booked on Namma Yatri app

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

A 30-year-old private firm employee jumped out of a moving auto after the driver took a different route than the one shown on the app. Amruthahalli police, who registered a case, arrested the auto driver.

The woman, who had gone to her kin's house, booked an auto on Namma Yatri app from Horamavu to her house in Thanisandra, around 8.50pm Thursday. She encountered trouble on Hebbal Road and messaged her husband. The driver, who was allegedly drunk, took her towards the wrong location near Hebbal. Despite repeatedly asking him to stop, he did not heed. Sensing trouble, the victim jumped out when the driver slowed down near a road hump near Veeranna Palya, and reached home in another auto.

The incident came to light on Friday morning when her husband posted about it on X. It is said he was made to visit three police stations in North East division to file a complaint, citing jurisdictional issues. He later posted about the incident on social media, tagging city police. Responding to his post, police acted swiftly and sought more details from him. The auto's registration number was shared with the police and the accused driver was arrested on Friday afternoon.

He also complained that Namma Yatri does not have a customer care number in case of an emergency, and asks customers to wait for 24 hours. Replying to the post, Namma Yatri stated that necessary action is being taken on the driver's account.

Police booked the driver for misbehaving with the woman, and investigations are on.

Women bring unique perspective to research in mental health: Murmu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

POINTING to the significant representation of women at the National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS), where nearly 80% of undergraduate and over 60% of postgraduate students are women, President Droupadi Murmu on Friday emphasised that women bring a unique perspective to caregiving and research in mental health.

Speaking at the institute's golden jubilee celebrations, she called this a vital step towards shaping the future of mental health services in the country and praised NIMHANS for its innovative contributions to mental healthcare, including the pioneering Ballari model of community-based mental health delivery and the Tele-MANAS initiative.

"The Tele-MANAS initiative, coordinated by NIMHANS as the apex centre, has set a remarkable example of how technology can bridge gaps in mental healthcare," Murmu said.

Over the past two years, Tele-MANAS has supported nearly 70 lakh people across 53 centres in their preferred languages, she said.

She also inaugurated new facilities, including the Psychiatry Speciality Block, Central Laboratory Complex, Bhima Hostel, a Next Generation 3T MRI Scanner and an Advanced DSA System, in the presence of Union Health Minister JP Nadda and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Murmu stressed the integration of traditional practices with modern healthcare, noting that NIMHANS has effectively incorporated yoga and Ayurveda to address mental and physical distress. "This approach serves as a global model for holistic care," she remarked.

She concluded by highlighting the growing mental health challenges across all age groups and called for continued innovation and compassion in the field.

Nadda highlighted NIMHANS' growth from serving under 10 lakh patients per annum in the 1970s to handling over 50 lakh in the last decade. He also praised its role as the coordinating centre for Tele-MANAS, which reflects the government's commitment to expanding mental health access.

President Droupadi Murmu, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Union Health Minister JP Nadda during the golden jubilee celebrations of NIMHANS on Friday | EXPRESS

NIMHANS GETS NEW FACILITIES

The Psychiatry Speciality Block will focus on specialised areas such as geriatric psychiatry, perinatal psychiatry and suicide prevention, providing holistic care and enhancing professional development for experts across India. The newly established Central Laboratory Complex combines five key laboratory services, including Neuropathology, Neurochemistry, and Neurovirology, aimed at improving diagnostic precision and fostering global research in neurological and neurosurgical disorders. Bhima Hostel has been developed to accommodate the growing student population. The introduction of the Next-Generation 3T MRI Scanner marks a significant leap in imaging technology. It offers faster, higher-quality scans, enhancing diagnostic capabilities and patient care. An Advanced DSA System, equipped with cone beam CT and 3D rotational angiography, will provide detailed insights into brain blood vessels, aiding in the diagnosis and treatment of complex neurological conditions.

Man asks neighbours not to burst crackers, gets bashed up

PRAVEEN KUMAR @Bengaluru

REQUESTING his neighbours not to burst crackers during the New Year revelry as his 25-day-old son was panicking proved dearly for a 29-year-old T Dasarahalli resident. Incensed by his request, several of his neighbours, including four women, beat him up severely.

Following the incident, the victim, identified as PR Naveen Kumar, a resident of Prashanth Nagar in T Dasarahalli, filed a police complaint against his neighbours at the Bagalagunte police station. Kumar, who works as a mobile technician, said the incident happened between 11.30 pm and 11.59 pm on Tuesday.

"As I was alone, they attacked me. When my mother-in-law came to my rescue, she was also beaten. Due to the sound of the crackers, my son started panicking and kept crying repeatedly. I requested my neighbours not to burst crackers. I have been staying with my family in the rented house for the last 18 months. The accused stay in their own houses. Seven of them, including four women, attacked me. I fractured my thumb and have taken treatment for it," Kumar told *TNIE*.

A police officer said a few of the accused were under the influence of alcohol. A case of causing hurt [BNS 115(2)] along with other sections of BNS has been registered against the accused.

A student receives her degree certificate during the 9th annual convocation of Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences on Friday | EXPRESS

RAMAIAH UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES 9TH CONVOCATION

Bengaluru: Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (RUAS) celebrated its 9th annual convocation on Friday. The event marked the graduation of 1,910 students, including 32 Ph.D. scholars, 670 Postgraduates, and 1208 Undergraduates. For their exceptional academic achievements, 102 students were honoured with gold and silver medals. University Grants Commission Chairman Prof Mamidala Jagdish Kumar conferred the degrees to the graduates and said the aspiration of every student should be on how to build a future which is secure, sustainable and peaceful. Dr MR Jayaram, MSRUAS Chancellor, urged the students to carry with them the core values such as integrity, curiosity, resilience and responsibility towards society. Prof Kuldeep Kumar Raina, Vice Chancellor of RUAS, was present. **ENS**

Space to house captured leopards will become a constraint in coming years

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

EVEN as the leopard at the Infosys campus in Mysuru remains elusive, forest department officials have warned that in the coming times there will be shortage of space to house all the captured leopards.

To address this, forest department has asked the urban development departments and city corporations to involve them while planning and sanctioning layouts, commercial and residential spaces in the coming times.

"The pace at which we are capturing and housing leopards, in the next 2-3 years there will be no space to house any more. Furthermore, space for humans and animals will become a matter of concern," said a senior forest department official, not wanting to be named.

According to forest department records, in the last two years, 16 leopard cubs have been handed over by farmers from sugarcane fields alone. That is not all, every month at least three leopard are rescued from each district.

Bannerghatta Leopard Rescue Centre, Karnataka's dedicated centre also the state's largest houses 80 leopards. The tiger rescue centre in Mysuru, also houses nine leopards. The state government is also setting up mobile emergency leopard shelters in Shivamogga and Belagavi.

"Presently we are working on catch and release method, ensuring there is minimal or no human imprint. But if the leopard is injured, also if the political and citizen pressure is too high, the leopard is held back in the rescue centre. Their number in rescue centres is rising and space is becoming a problem. We are thus asking urban development, city corporations and district administrations to make forest department a part of the urban planning committee, while sanctioning infrastructure, housing and commercial projects or while expanding cities to the outskirts," the official said, adding that leopards are found in outskirts of all cities and not just Bengaluru.

President Droupadi Murmu inaugurates the KLE cancer hospital in Belagavi

Prez opens KLE's cancer hospital in Belagavi

Belagavi: A state-of-the-art, Rs 300 crore worth KLE Dr Sampathkumar Shivanagi Cancer Hospital, Belagavi was inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu at a programme held here on Friday evening. The high-tech cancer hospital will provide cancer cure and cancer care facilities to the needy from Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa and Telangana. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Murmu congratulated the KLE Society for its contributions to education and healthcare and appreciated the fact that over 50 percent of KLE institutions are in the rural areas. She congratulated chairman of society Dr Kore and the Board of Management for starting a modern and well-equipped cancer hospital. She stressed on the need to address both the physical and psychological aspects of cancer. **ENS**

EXPRESS READ

Dalai Lama in city today, leave for Bylakuppe tomorrow

Bengaluru: Tibetan spiritual leader, the 14th Dalai Lama, will arrive in Bengaluru at 10am Friday from New Delhi at HAL airport. He will head straight to the Hilton Hotel for an overnight stay, and leave the next day for Bylakuppe in Mysuru district by air. The Chief Representative Officer (CRO), South Zone, Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) Jigme Tsultrim said, "His Holiness the Dalai Lama has no scheduled appointments or public meeting during his one-day stay in Bengaluru". The Dalai Lama will stay in Bylakuppe for a month or more mainly to rest and recuperate. **ENS**

DySP suspended after video with woman surfaces

Bengaluru: The DySP of Madhugiri sub-division has been suspended after a video clip surfaced on Thursday purportedly showing him in a compromising position with a woman inside his office. The 35-second video clip, recorded with a mobile phone camera, shows DySP Ramachandrappa with the woman in his office. The officer, who is said to retire in another two months, was suspended on Friday pending departmental inquiry. The woman is said to have approached the DySP's office in Pavagada to file a complaint regarding a land dispute. **ENS**

NTPC Limited
(A Govt. of India Enterprise)

NOTICE

Registered Office Address: NTPC Bhawan, Core-7, SCOPE Complex, 7-Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003
Corporate Identification Number- L40101DL1975GOI007966

1. The petitioner above named has filed a petition before the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), New Delhi for determination of tariff of **Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station Stage - III (500 MW)** from 01.04.2024 to 31.03.2029.
2. The beneficiaries of the generating station are:
   a) AP Eastern Power Distribution Company Limited, Corporate Office, P&T Colony, Seethammadhara, Visakhapatnam – 530 013.
   b) AP Southern Power Distribution Company Limited, Corporate Office, Back Side Srinivasa Kalyana Mandapam Tiruchhanur Road, Kesavayana Gunta Tirupathi – 517 503.
   c) A.P. Central Power Distribution Corporation Limited, Corporate Office, Beside Polytechnic College, ITI Road, Vijayawada-520008.
   d) Telangana State Northern Power Distribution Company Limited, H.No. 2-5-31/2, Vidyut Bhavan, Nakkalagutta, Hanamkonda, Warangal – 506 001.
   e) Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited, Mint Compound, Corporate Office, Hyderabad – 500 063.
   f) Tamil Nadu Generation & Distribution Corporation Limited, 144 Anna Salai Chennai – 600 002.
   g) Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited, Krishna Rajendra Circle, Bangalore - 560 009.
   h) Mangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited, MESCOM Bhavan, Corporate Office, Bejai, Kavoor cross road, Mangaluru-575004.
   i) Chamundeshwari Electricity Supply Corporation Limited, Corporate Office, No. 29, Vijayanagar, 2nd stage Hinkal, Mysore – 570 017.
   j) Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited, Main road, Gulbarga – 585 102.
   k) Hubli Electricity Supply Company Limited, Corporate office, P.B.Road, Navanagar Hubli – 580 025.
   l) Kerala State Electricity Board Limited, Vaidyuthi Bhavanam, Pattom Thiruvananthapuram – 695 004.
   m) Electricity Department, Government of Puducherry, 137 Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Salai, Puducherry- 605001.
3. Capacity of the generating station : 500 MW
4. Approved capital cost of the project : Rs. 1632.68 Cr
5. Authority which has approved the Capital Cost : CERC
6. Scheduled date of commercial operation : Not Applicable
7. Actual date of commercial operation of station: 25.03.2005
8. Capital cost on date of Commercial operation of Station: Not Applicable
9. Details of tariff:

Particulars	Year-wise tariff sought to be determined					
	Tariff for the previous year*	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Capacity Charges (Rs.Lakh/ year)	38344.81	39029.55	39147.94	38999.22	38864.31	40585.22
Energy Charges (Rs./kWh	3.853	3.645				

*As per Petition for truing-up of tariff for 2019-24 period for **Ramagundam Super Thermal power Station Stage- III (500 MW)** filed with Hon'ble CERC.

10. A copy of the petition made for determination of tariff is posted on the website of NTPC, namely www.ntpc.co.in under the Tab "Notices".
11. The suggestions and objections, if any, on the proposals for determination of tariff contained in the petition may be filed by any person, including the beneficiaries through e-filing portal of the Commission, with a copy to the Petitioner within 30 days of publication of this notice.

Place : Noida (U.P.)
Date : 04.12.2024
(U.S.Mohanty)
Addl. General Manager (Comml.)

Leading the Power Sector

भारत सरकार, अन्तरिक्ष विभाग
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
राष्ट्रीय वायुमंडलीय अनुसंधान प्रयोगशाला
NATIONAL ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH LABORATORY
तिरुपति जिला., गादंकी – 517 112, भारत
Tirupati Dist., Gadanki – 517 112, India

राष्ट्रीय वायुमंडलीय अनुसंधान प्रयोगशाला (एनएआरएल) प्रेक्षणों और मॉडलिंग का उपयोग करते हुए सतह से लेकर आयनमंडल तक मौसम व जलवायु एवं अंतरिक्ष मौसम सहित वायुमंडल के विभिन्न पहलुओं के आवरक अग्रवर्ती वायुमंडलीय अनुसंधान, और नई प्रयोगात्मक तकनीकों का तथा स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकियों का विकास में प्रवृत्त है। हाल ही में, एनएआरएल ने ग्रहीय वायुमंडलीय/आयनमंडलीय अनुसंधान और संबंधित यंत्रीकरण का सूत्रपात किया है।

National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL) is engaged in frontline atmospheric research covering various aspects of the atmosphere right from the surface to the ionosphere including weather & climate and space weather using observations and modelling, and development of new experimental techniques and indigenization of technologies. Recently, NARL has initiated Planetary atmospheric / ionospheric research and related instrumentation.

एनएआरएल द्वारा निम्नलिखित पदों के लिए ऑनलाइन आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं/NARL invites online applications for the following positions

विज्ञापन सं. एनएआरएल/आरएमटी/जेआरएफ/01/2024 — 25.12.2024
Advertisement No.NARL/RMT/JRF/01/2024 — 25.12.2024

फ़ेलोशिप का कोड सं. Fellowship Code No.	फ़ेलोशिप का नाम Name of the Fellowship	फ़ेलोशिप की सं. No. of Fellowships	अनिवार्य योग्यता Essential Qualifications
01.	**कनिष्ठ अनुसंधान कर्ता (जेआरएफ)** फ़ेलोशिप की राशि : प्रथम एवं द्वितिय वर्ष के लिए ₹.37,000/-प्र.मा तदनंतर वर्षों के लिए ₹.42,000/-प्र.मा **Junior Research Fellow (JRF)** Fellowship Amount : For 1st & 2nd years Rs. 37,000/- per month For the subsequent years Rs. 42,000/- per month	19	(अ). निम्नलिखित विषयों में स्नातकोत्तर उपाधि में विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा घोषित प्रथम श्रेणी या समकक्ष सीजीपीए ग्रेड: a) First Class or equivalent CGPA Grade as declared by University in Post – Graduate degree in the following subjects : भौतिकी/वायुमंडलीय विज्ञान/अन्तरिक्ष भौतिकी/मौसम विज्ञान/अनुप्रयुक्त रसायन विज्ञान/ भूभौतिकी/भू प्रणाली विज्ञान या मुख्य विषय के रूप में भौतिकी या वायुमंडलीय विज्ञान या अन्तरिक्ष भौतिकी या मौसम विज्ञान के समकक्ष Physics/Atmospheric Science /Space Physics / Meteorology / Applied Chemistry /Geophysics/ Earth System Sciences or equivalent with Physics or Atmospheric Science or Space Physics or Meteorology as core subjects. अथवा/OR इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी इंजीनियरिंग/संचार इंजीनियरिंग/प्रकाशिकी इंजीनियरिंग/ फोटोनिक्स/यंत्रीकरण इंजीनियरिंग में कोई विशेषज्ञता Any Specialization of Electronics Engineering / Communication Engineering / Optical Engineering / Photonics / Instrumentation Engineering. और/AND (आ). सीएसआईआर-यूजीसीनेट/गेट/जेएएम/जेईएसटी में उत्तीर्ण। b) Qualified in CSIR-UGC NET / GATE / JAM / JEST.

आवेदन कैसे करें/How to apply :
इच्छुक उम्मीदवार विस्तृत सूचना और ऑनलाइन आवेदन पत्र भरने के दिशा-निर्देशों के लिए वेबसाइट www.narl.gov.in देखें। आवेदन ऑन-लाइन किये जाने चाहिए। आवेदक का ई-मेल अईडी अनिवार्य रूप से आवेदन मे दिया जाए। ऑनलाइन आवेदन के लिए साइट 04.01.2025 (10:00 बजे) से 24.01.2025 (23:59 बजे) तक खुली रहेगी।

Interested candidates may visit the web-site www.narl.gov.in for detailed information and guidelines for filling up of **online** application form. Applications should be submitted on-line only. E-mail ID of the applicant will have to be given in the application compulsorily. The online application site will remain open from 04.01.2025 (10:00 Hrs) to 24.01.2025 (23:59 Hrs).

HBL HLL Biotech Limited
A Government of India Enterprise
(Ministry of Health & Family Welfare)

HLL Biotech Limited, a PSU under Ministry of Health &Family Welfare invites proposals and applications for the following:

S.No	Invitations
1.	Proposals are invited for the engagement of Technical and Financial Consultants on a short-term basis. Interested parties can visit our website for the detailed RfP.
2.	HBL is seeking candidates for various positions on Fixed Term Contract (FTC) and permanent basis.
3.	Rent /Lease for Warehouse, Godown, Shed Space and Cold Storage are available. Interested parties can contact the below mentioned address.

Interested parties can visit HBL website: **www.hllbiotech.com.**

HLL Biotech Limited,
Integrated Vaccine Complex,
S.No. 192 & 195, Melaripakkam Post, Thirukazhukundram Tk, Chengalpattu – 603 001.
Tel: 044 – 27421449, +91- 9363767183

HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Maharatna Company)

Appointment of HP Lube Distributors

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for selection as channel partners across multiple locations.
1. Industrial Lube Distributors (ILDs)
2. Bazaar Lube Distributors (BLDs / Rural BLDs)

For detailed information on the advertisement and application process, please visit our website: **https://www.hplubricants.in** through the following path: Lube Distributor >> Become a Distributor.

Locations/Selection guidelines uploaded in the website should be referred for details regarding the advertisement. There is no application fee. Applications and all enclosures/attachments completed in all respects must be submitted online before 23:59 hours on date: 26th January 2025 (the last date of application submission).

Any addendum/corrigendum will be posted on the website.

www.hindustanpetroleum.com

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DESIGN ANDHRA PRADESH
(An Autonomous Institute of National Importance under DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India)

RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION

No. NID AP/RECT./2024/R-02 **Dated: 05.12.2024**

The National Institute of Design, Andhra Pradesh is an autonomous multi-disciplinary design Institute of National Importance established under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, Online applications are invited from the eligible Indian Nationals to fil-up the following positions.

S. No.	Post Name/No./Reservation	Pay Level	Mode of Recruitment
1	Head Librarian-01 No. (UR)	11	Direct Recruitment Failing which by Deputation
2	Senior Accounts Officer-01 No. (UR)	10	Direct Recruitment Failing which by Deputation

All positions are identified as suitable for persons with benchmark disabilities. Interested and eligible candidates may apply online only through the link on the Institute website. For further details, updates and modifications, if any, shall be available on our website **www.nid.ac.in/careers** only. The online application window will be open for 30 days from the date of publication of this notice in the Employment News.

Sd/- **In-Charge Admin Head**
CBC 05218/12/0005/2425 **National Institute of Design Andhra Pradesh**

Your Guide to Spicy Living INDULGE *Every Friday with* THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

The BJP has decided to lay siege to the residence of RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge in Kalaburagi on Saturday in connection with the death by suicide of Bidar contractor Sachin Panchal. In his death note, Panchal had allegedly blamed a follower of the minister for harassing and seeking bribes from him

DKS IN TURKEY, SIDDU HAS COSY DINNER WITH CABINET

It's back to camp politics, say analysts; Oppn leaders taunt Shivakumar, term it a 'show of strength' by the CM

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI & NAUSHAD BIJAPUR
@ Bengaluru/Belagavi

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah and his cabinet colleagues, mostly Dalit ministers, had dinner at PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi's residence on Thursday. Nothing remarkable, except that the get-together happened at a time when Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar is on a personal trip to Turkey.

It is being interpreted as camp politics, and attempts at political one-upmanship to counter Shivakumar, who appears to have outfoxed the Siddaramaiah camp, especially Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara and Belagavi district minister Satish Jarkiholi. The issue in point is BJP MLC CT Ravi's alleged derogatory remarks on Women and Child Welfare Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar, when he sent out a message that he is the CM-in-waiting.

The Siddaramaiah camp learnt of Ravi's arrest and turn of events quite late, according to sources. Opposition parties, including LoP R Ashoka noticed it, and commented that Siddaramaiah was growing weak before Shivakumar.

As a strategy to counter Shivakumar, Siddaramaiah's Man Friday Satish arranged dinner to make a point that their camp could not be ignored, say political pundits. Earlier, none of the dinners hosted by AHINDA leaders, including Parameshwara, featured Shivakumar, they added.

"The CM @siddaramaiah faction, which was waiting for the DCM @DKShivakumar to go on a foreign trip, held a dinner meeting in a show of strength. DK Shivakumar, it is time to implement what you bragged about in the House, saying that you will grab the power. A cabinet meeting is held in his absence. An impression like increasing bus fare by 15% is taken. What does it mean that such decisions are taken in the absence of DCM and the party's state president? Is it that he is not a player in the Congress party or is his bravado only in front of the media? If he continues like this, it is guaranteed that his dream (to become CM) will remain a dream," posted R Ashoka on 'X'.

According to sources, the Siddaramaiah camp discussed a change in the KPCC president's post and cabinet reshuffle after the high command takes a call. Although Jarkiholi agreed that several political issues were discussed during the meeting, he said nothing about a change of guard or possible cabinet reshuffle or appointment of DCMs. He said party leaders gave suggestions on how to bolster the party for the next assembly elections.

On replacing Shivakumar as KPCC president, Jarkiholi said it is up to the high command to take a call, but there was nothing wrong in one leader holding two key positions. He did not clarify whether he was an aspirant for the top party post.

Former CM and Belagavi MP Jagadish Shettar said the dinner meeting had exposed infighting in the Congress. Meanwhile, Agriculture Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy said that Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar were on good terms.

Contractor writes to CM, seeks funds or mercy death

G SUBHASH CHANDRA
@ Davanagere

AMID rising corruption charges against the government, ministers and MLAs, a contractor has written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to release his funds or grant him mercy death.

Contractor from Harihar Mohammed Mazhar, who constructed a toilet at khabarsthan (burial ground) in Ward 29 of Harihar at a cost of Rs 25 lakh, has been running from pillar to post to get his bills encashed, but officials at Harihar City Municipal Council have been giving evasive replies for a year.

On Thursday, Mazhar wrote to CM Siddaramaiah, a copy of which is with TNIE, requesting him to release the contract money of Rs 20 lakh, and another bill of Rs 5 lakh, or allow him mercy killing.

Mazhar told TNIE that he is a Class 1 contractor, who had completed the toilet and CC drainage work under the State Finance Commission (SFC) grant in 2023. Third party inspection of the work was completed on December 7, 2023. "Even after one year, the bills were not released. My letters to the Deputy Commissioner and government went unheard. Even ward councillors are not heeding my requests. I have paid them commission," he alleged.

Mazhar said he took a hand loan to complete the work and has paid Rs 2-3 lakh in interest till now. "The loans are still outstanding, and now my daughter's wedding is before me. Except this money I have no other source... After getting disgusted with the lethargic attitude of officials, I have finally come to a conclusion to accept mercy death, hence request you to permit me to die," he requested in the letter.

Non-release of funds for work completed under SFC grant is a clear indicator of open corruption, alleged district BJP president Rajashekhar N.

Contractors allege they can't pay interest for hand loans taken, and they also have to pay commission to Congress legislators and ministers to get their money.

Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka and his Council counterpart Chalavadi Narayanaswamy present flowers to commuters in protest against the 15% hike in bus fares, in Bengaluru on Friday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

Fare hike: Handing out roses, BJP leaders 'apologise' on CM's behalf

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UNION Minister HD Kumaraswamy and BJP leaders expressed displeasure at the government's decision to increase bus fares by 15%. Senior BJP leaders staged a protest against the bus fare hike by presenting flowers to commuters and "apologizing" to them on behalf of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Leader of Opposition in the Assembly R Ashoka said not just the bus fare hike, the government will soon increase milk prices and water tariffs.

Meanwhile, Kumaraswamy said since coming to power, the Congress government has made it a routine policy to burden the public and people are forced to bear it.

"Is there even a government in this state? Can this really be called a government? Ever since they came to power, all they've done is hike prices," he told media persons.

Kumaraswamy said the government has increased bus fares by 15%, placing a heavy burden on the people. He said people protest for a day or two and then forget about it as they've also got accustomed to it.

He said the Congress government had imposed a cess on diesel and petrol, increased stamp duty, guidance values, liquor prices and now even milk prices are set to be hiked. In previous administrations, price hikes were made only when it was absolutely necessary, but owing to this government's mismanagement, the entire burden has been placed on the people, he said.

Hike needed to offset BJP govt's liability: Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

JUSTIFYING the 15% bus fare hike, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Friday said this was inevitable as the previous BJP government had left a liability of Rs 5,900 crore, and maintenance costs and salaries have increased.

"From Rs 9 crore four years ago, the expenditure on diesel has now come to Rs 13 crore every day. Similarly on salaries, from Rs 12 crore it has come to Rs 18 crore daily. Transport corporations have a daily burden of Rs 10 crore. The Centre increased the diesel rate from Rs 60 in 2020 to Rs 90 now. I dare Prime Minister Narendra Modi to reduce the diesel price and then let his party leaders talk about the bus fare hike," said Reddy.

The minister also stated that the BJP has no moral right to question the bus fare price hike, as the previous BS Yediyurappa-led BJP government in 2020 had increased the bus fare rate by 12%.

The minister also clarified that there will be no increase of rates on bus passes and the hike will come into effect from January 5.

Congress slams Ashoka

The state Congress unit hit out at Ashoka for allegedly abusing a police officer who tried to stop him during the protest against the bus fare hike. In the short video clip put out by the Congress on its social media handle, the BJP leader can be seen allegedly telling the police officer that they were not protesting and were only giving flowers to people. He asked the police officer to provide it in writing why they were stopping the BJP leaders. When the officer tried to stop him, the BJP leader raised his voice and warned the police officer against touching him as he is the Leader of the Opposition. "The BJP leader unleashed his anger against the police officer and insulted women," Congress stated.

SLUGFEST IN HOUSE

CID officers visit Hebbalkar's residence in case against Ravi

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

CID sleuths, looking into the alleged sexual harassment case filed by Women and Child Welfare Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar against BJP MLC CT Ravi, began their investigation by visiting her house at the Seven Ministers Quarters on Sankey Road in Vasanthnagar in Bengaluru on Friday.

A team led by Deputy Superintendent of Police Anjumala Nayak visited the minister's house to record her statement pertaining to the incident that allegedly happened in the Council at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi on December 19. If the victims are either women or children, the police must visit them at their convenience instead of summoning them to the office of the investigating officer. The minister might also have to record her statements before a magistrate and the time is yet to be fixed. After the minister is questioned, the officers will summon Ravi to the CID office on Palace Road for questioning.

After giving her statement to the CID sleuths, Hebbalkar told the media that she is not considering the case a matter of prestige, but as a question of her self-respect. "The investigation has just begun. I request everyone to stand with me in this matter. Whatever needs to happen within the legal framework will happen," she added.

Nadda lands in B'luru as internal bickering in state BJP becomes a concern

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

IN a visit that has generated significant attention, BJP national president J P Nadda arrived in Bengaluru for a series of brief one-on-one meetings with key party leaders. There were no formal group discussions on the agenda, but party leaders took the opportunity to brief Nadda about key issues affecting the state, including the MUDA and Valmiki corporation scams, the Sachin Panchal suicide case and the internal bickering within the party.

Opposition Leader in the Legislative Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy said Nadda emphasised the importance of unity within the state unit.

However, what set tongues wagging during the visit was the conspicuous absence of dissenting leaders, including MLAs Basangouda Patil Yatnal and Ramesh Jarkiholi and their supporters. Despite speculation that they, or their supporters, might approach Nadda to present their side of the story, sources indicated that their presence was considered unnecessary.

It was suggested that the central leadership, already briefed on the ongoing developments, saw no need for further discussions. Though the Yatnal issue did not dominate Nadda's meetings, party insiders confirmed that the central leadership was fully aware of the growing dissent within the party and the concerns surrounding its disciplinary practices. These are likely to be issues that the new national president will have to navigate when he takes office. When questioned about the absence of dissenting leaders, Narayanaswamy downplayed the issue, stating, "If there were differences, those leaders would have met Nadda. There are no differences among us."

BJP national president JP Nadda being felicitated by Jagadguru Nirmalananda Swami, pontiff of Sri Adichunchanagiri Mutt, and Chancellor of S Vyasa University Dr HR Nagendra at a programme in Bengaluru on Friday | VINOD KUMAR T

One of the most surprising moments of Nadda's visit occurred at the Kumarakrupa guest house, where he was greeted by MLC Ravi Kumar and, unexpectedly, RR Nagar MLA Munirathna. Known for his controversial past, Munirathna's appearance was particularly striking. Sources suggested that his presence was not a coincidence, but a clear message to the party leadership that, in his time of need, Munirathna expects the party to support him rather than disown him.

As Nadda prepares to hand over the reins to a new national president, it is clear that the issues related to party discipline, particularly concerning Yatnal and Jarkiholi, will not be overlooked. These matters are likely to reach the highest levels of the party, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Some sources hinted that these issues were subtly raised with Nadda during his visit. How the party will address these concerns remains to be seen.

Narayanaswamy also clarified that Nadda's visit was primarily for a private event. "We provided him with information about how the Congress government in the state is functioning," he explained. When asked about the party's organisational matters, Narayanaswamy said, "We discussed everything. Nadda enquired about how we, as opposition leaders, are working. We shared the work we've been doing and assured him that we are all united in our efforts."

MY TAKE

Fiction & the science of escaping earth ... with love, or hate?

NIRAD MUDUR
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Days and nights are filled with biased and misleading information in pursuit of gaining political mileage. Simply put, propaganda rules. This includes spreading information, arguments, half-truths, full lies, and rumours, to influence public opinion. Fiction is its active component, and yet we don't consider it as such, preferring to fall for it or fight it, depending on who is floating the malicious stuff — a political party or a faction that one favours, or opposes.

Fiction is born out of imagination. That it easily caters to propaganda is not the fault of fiction, but that of devious — albeit imaginative — minds using it to float propaganda. Had we been alert to what is fiction and what is not, probably we would have been more adept at sniffing it out. Since we are not, we let it provide us some form of excitement in life, loving it if it serves our ideology or opinion, hating it if it doesn't.

Whichever side wins, hate spreads. Hate wins.

Let's cut to a more refreshing form of fiction: Science fiction. Refreshing, because it provides different scenarios, different possibilities, very different narratives, completely diverting our minds on routes away from the mundane.

That's why science fiction is held in awe, triggering our imaginations beyond set limits. Especially popular in this genre of fiction is "extraterrestrial life", and works dealing with the billion-dollar question: "Does extraterrestrial life exist?"

The awe is such that a close look at the efforts of all the space-faring countries — including India — ultimately aim at planetary exploration missions, which in turn (and very importantly) include getting that one question answered: "Does extraterrestrial life exist?"

Ray Douglas Bradbury, an eminent American author and screenwriter who worked on a variety of genres like science fiction, fantasy, horror, mystery and realistic fiction, described science fiction this way: "(It) is any idea that occurs in the head and doesn't exist yet, but soon will, and will change everything for everybody, and nothing will ever be the same again....It is always the art of the possible, never the impossible."

How right Bradbury was has been proved in 2009 by India's Chandrayaan-1 mission in relation to a then-fictional observation by Isaac Asimov, considered among the top three science fiction writers alongside Arthur C Clarke and Robert A Heinlein. In his 1979 book *Extraterrestrial Civilizations*, Asimov says: "... might there not be water present in minor quantities in small pools or bogs in the shadow of crater walls, in underground rivers and seepages, or even just in loose chemical combination with the molecules making up the Moon's solid surface?"

Three decades after Asimov's prediction based on imagination, Chandrayaan-1's Moon Impact Probe slammed into the lunar surface to raise a plume of lunar dust. Payloads on the Moon-orbiting Chandrayaan-1 went active to detect water molecules in the lunar dust plume — a breakthrough discovery of the existence of water molecules on Moon. An imagined fiction became a fact.

The same Asimov also made another imaginative prediction about how extraterrestrial beings could be: "Why can't life with chemical and physical properties completely different from terrestrial life nevertheless develop and evolve intelligence? Why can't there be a very slow, solid life form (too slow, perhaps, to be recognized as life by us) living on the Moon, or for that matter, here on Earth? Why not a very rapid and evanescent gaseous life form, literally exploding with thought and experiencing lifetimes in split seconds, existing on the Sun, for instance." Future technological capabilities will tell whether they do exist in those forms.

But a crucial aim of space exploration (they never admit this!) is to scout for alternative planets for the sustenance of humankind if Earth becomes uninhabitable — a likely scenario from our current position. While at it, one question may pop up in the mind: Why not give as much importance to finding love and harmony here and now on Earth as much as to finding extraterrestrial life forms in whatever shapes sizes and forms, or to finding alternative planets as abodes for Homo Sapiens — the same species which is extremely proficient in finding means to justify hate using "fictional truths" to spread propaganda.

Spreading love and harmony sincerely and truthfully — among humans and with nature and the ecosystems — may well eliminate the need for escaping Earth to find other planets as abodes in the far future. But we need to act now, and while doing so, also need to remember another of Asimov's observations: "The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than (human) society gathers wisdom!"

EXPRESS READ

'No crony capitalism in MMS' policies like now'

Bengaluru: Hitting out at BJP sympathisers who term Dr Manmohan Singh as an "accidental PM", political scientist Yogendra Yadav on Friday made a veiled attack on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying that the latter bagging the top post in 2014 was a "bad accident" for the country. "The policies of former PM Singh did not demonstrate crony capitalism the way they are being driven now. There was a safety net with programmes like NREGA. The free food for people that the Modi government is taking credit for is the Congress government's scheme," he said. He was speaking at a debate on 'Legacy of Dr Manmohan Singh-the present and future of India' organised at Gandhi Bhavan. ENS

Coaches of the Guruvayoor-Madurai Express detached from the running train near New Aryankavu station on Friday afternoon. The automatic braking system was triggered immediately, bringing the coaches connected to the engine to a halt soon after the detachment. Railway technicians promptly attended to the issue, reconnecting the detached coaches within 30 minutes

ED raids DMK min's residence & college in Vellore

Team waited outside for 7 hours, used hammers, other tools to get inside the house

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Vellore

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches at four locations in Vellore on Friday, including the Gandhi Nagar residence of Tamil Nadu Water Resources Minister and DMK General Secretary Duraimurugan. The house, which also serves as the residence of his son, Vellore MP Kathir Anand, was among the premises targeted. Other sites raided included Kingston Engineering College, chaired by MP Kathir Anand, and properties belonging to DMK cadre Poncholai Srinivasan and his relative in Pallikuppam, Vellore district.

According to official sources, the raids, which began at 7 am, are part of ongoing investigations. Both Minister Duraimurugan and MP Kathir Anand were confirmed to be out of Vellore during the searches. Sources revealed that Kathir Anand is currently vacationing in Dubai with his family.

From his residence in Kotturpuram, Chennai, Minister Duraimurugan told reporters: "I don't know what is happening at my residence. Only my two maids are there, and they are unaware of the situation." He later granted permission via email for ED officials to access his house using a spare key. The search was conducted in the presence of DMK Katpadi branch secretary Vanniyaraja, Vellore Corporation Deputy Mayor Sunilkumar, and lawyer Balaji.

The ED team reportedly waited outside the residence for nearly seven hours before beginning the search at 2 pm, after submitting documents confirming the raid to Vanniyaraja and Sunilkumar. Official sources later confirmed that the ED team used hammers and other tools to access the minister's home locker as part of an intensive search.

The raids on Friday have drawn comparisons to similar actions during the 2019 parliamentary elections in Tamil Nadu. At the time, Income Tax officials raided Duraimurugan's residence and Kingston Engineering College on allegations of voter bribery. The raids on March 29 and 30, 2019, led to the seizure of ₹10.57 lakh from the minister's house.

On April 1 , 2019, IT officials conducted additional raids at six locations, including Srinivasan's residence and a cement godown owned by his relative, seizing ₹11.51 crore in cash.

Both Minister Duraimurugan and MP Kathir Anand were confirmed to be out of Vellore during the searches. Kathir Anand is currently vacationing in Dubai with his family

Sources

PROBE ON

Did Sri Ram Sene hold arms training camp in Belagavi?

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bagalkot

AN alleged arms training conducted recently by right-wing outfit- Sri Ram Sene at Todalabagi village in Jamkhandi taluk has come to light.

According to the sources, the Sene conducted the training in the remote hilly areas of the village with several participants. The video and photos of the event have now gone viral where the participants carrying rifles and aiming at the target.

However, it is not sure whether the rifles being used were airguns (which do not require any licence for usage) or any prohibited weapons. The sources also said it was self-defence and personality development training held for five days for the participants. Meanwhile, when contacted for further details on the training, neither the district president nor the state president of Sene was available to talk. Only taluk president Ravi Pujar could be contacted by this reporter. He, however, refused to divulge any details about the training, number of participants attended or anything related to it. He claimed that since he was out of station for some work, he did not have much information about the training. He however admitted that such training was conducted in Todalabagi village.

"I cannot say anything about the training as I was not in the city. I only know that the training was held, besides that, I do not have anything more to share", he said. When contacted, CPI M D Maddi of Jamkhandi range under which the village falls, said they still have to get confirmation about it. They said they would conduct an inquiry and take suitable legal action against the erring persons if the inquiry suggested any illegality.

Participants at the weapons training camp said to be conducted by Sri Ram Sene at Todalabagi village in Jamkhandi taluk recently | EXPRESS

ARMY GLORY

Governor of Telangana Jishnu Dev Varma at Know Your Army Mela at Golconda Fort in Hyderabad on Friday. Organised by headquarters of Telangana and Andhra Sub Area, the event aims at inspiring the youth | VINAY MADAPU

SPACE

2025: A BUSY AND CHALLENGING YEAR FOR ISRO

Dr BR GURUPRASAD
Science writer and broadcaster specialising in space

STARTING Point 2025

Year 2024 has been quite meaningful for the Indian space programme. Both its satellites and launch vehicles scored important successes beginning from the very first day of the year itself.

Among its achievements, the most conspicuous ones were the successful entry into its 36,000 km high final orbital home by the country's latest 'high throughput' (high capacity) communication satellite GSAT-N2 in November-end.

This was followed about a week later by yet another significant success achieved by India's trusted workhorse rocket PSLV during its 61st flight that placed two European Proba-3 satellites in the planned orbit precisely. The success further underscored India's prowess to provide reliable commercial launch services globally.

These two events, the latest in the string of successes scored by ISRO this year have made the agency look forward to the forthcoming year with guarded optimism.

Year 2025 looks like a demanding year for ISRO, beginning with the SpaDeX or Space Docking Experiment launched on December 30. As part of this important technology demonstration, two 220 kg satellites, a 'chaser' and a 'target', are launched as independent payloads (satellites) in a single PSLV launch into a 470 km orbit, and will be made to move away from each other. A few days later, their distance of separation will be gradually reduced before docking with each other. This will be a very critical event from the point of view of ISRO's future programmes, including 'Chandrayaan-4' and 'Bharatiya Antriksh Station' (Indian Space Station), and, much later, for the extremely challenging task of landing humans on the Moon, reportedly around 2040.

In the case of Chandrayaan-4, ISRO intends to launch two separate spacecraft into the earth orbit in two different launches and dock them there before proceeding to Moon with the arduous goal of bringing precious lunar soil and rock samples back to earth. This dual launch approach to send a large moon craft is due to the relatively limited launch capability of Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LVM3), the most powerful vehicle in ISRO's current stable of launch vehicles.

Similarly, Bharatiya Antriksh Station (BAS) will be a large modular earth-orbiting spacecraft which enables humans to live and work in the weightless environment of earth orbit quite comfortably. This necessitates launching different modules of BAS in separate launches and making them dock in the earth orbit.

The construction and completion of BAS may be a decade away. But ISRO is now getting ready to conduct the very first launch, albeit an uncrewed one, under the ambitious Gaganyaan programme in 2025. Gaganyaan will be the country's maiden step in the human spaceflight domain and adds a new dimension to the robust Indian space programme. The first few launches under Gaganyaan spacecraft will be uncrewed to ensure safety and reliability following which human crew would be launched. The assembly of the 'human rated' (capable of safely carrying humans) LVM3 rocket that will launch the first (uncrewed) Gaganyaan spacecraft has already begun, ISRO has announced.

Over the years, satellites have shrunk in size and thus many countries, and even universities have built satellites and got them launched. But only a handful of countries have the wherewithal to design, develop, build, test, launch, manage and utilise large and capable satellites in orbit. It is a matter of pride that India is among them. Our country has now carved out a niche for itself in the domain of space. With the Gaganyaan programme, India is endeavouring to enter the human spaceflight arena in which only Russia, the USA and China are the prominent players now.

Apart from highly visible programmes like Chandrayaan and Gaganyaan, ISRO is also poised to build and launch satellites for communications, earth observation including weather watch and navigation in the near future. This is to ensure continuity of various vital services such satellites are providing to the country.

For ISRO, busy days are ahead indeed.

K'taka model: AP to roll out free bus ride scheme for women

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

ANDHRA Pradesh (AP) Transport Minister Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy announced that the state would implement a free travel scheme for women in state-run buses, modelled after Karnataka's successful 'Shakti' scheme.

A delegation of ministers comprising Mandipalli Ramprasad Reddy, Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha and Women and Child Welfare Minister Gummadi Sandhya Rani met Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy on Friday. They discussed the success of the five guarantee schemes in the state, with a focus of the 'Shakti' scheme, which has accelerated economic progress and fostered women empowerment.

AP transport minister said, "The scheme benefits working women, students and labourers. This is pro-poor scheme, which we will implement in Andhra Pradesh as well."

The meeting held significance as the ruling alliance in Andhra Pradesh had announced 'Super Six' welfare schemes during their campaign, one of which included free bus travel for women in government buses. The AP ministers sought to understand the operational model and feasibility of the scheme in Karnataka before its roll out in their state.

Andhra Pradesh Transport Minister Ramprasad Reddy with other ministers

AP to study free travel model

Reddy further revealed that the team will also study the free travel model of Tamil Nadu and Delhi and hinted at implementing the scheme around Ugadi, in three to four months.

"There are around 11,000 buses under Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation and around 7,000 buses will be pressed for the scheme. Once implemented, the scheme will cost the state exchequer Rs 280 crore per month but its is expected to benefit 25 lakh women across AP," he explained.

The team from AP consisted of finance secretary Ronald Rose and transport department principal secretary Kantilal Dande. KSRTC managing director (MD) Anbu Kumar, BMTC MD R Ramachandran and KSRTC Vigilance director Nandini Devi shared details of the Shakti Scheme.

Khandre to lead delegation for funds

ENS @Bengaluru

FORESTS, Environment and Ecology Minister Eshwar B Khandre on Thursday said he will write to the southern states and take a delegation to New Delhi to demand that the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change release the state's share of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA) funds. He told the media that CAMPA funds are needed for mitigating man-animal conflict, erecting rail barricades and other works. However, due to lack of funds, most of the works are delayed. He said the state needs Rs 1400 crore of the sanctioned CAMPA funds.

During the elephant census report release in August 2024, when a meeting of southern states was held in Bengaluru, ministers and officials had agreed to form a delegation and take a team to Delhi. The team was led by the Kerala forest minister. However, nothing moved forward. The meeting was chaired by ministers and officials from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Jharkhand.

Taking note of this, Khandre said he will take the lead and write to ministers of southern states and take a delegation to Delhi, demanding the CAMPA funds be released.

Pertaining to the issue of night traffic ban on NH-212 passing through Bandipur Tiger Reserve, connecting Mysuru and Wayanad, Khandre said traffic movement is banned from 9pm to 6am.

EXPRESS READ

GADAG ENGINEER DIES BY SUICIDE, BROTHER SAYS IT'S MURDER

Gadag: An engineer working at Nirmiti Kendra hanged himself at a private lodge in Gadag town. The deceased is Shankar Gowda Patil (54), a resident of Hatalageri Naka in Gadag town. He was working as a project engineer on contract basis at Gadag district's Nirmiti Kendra and was in-charge of Nirmiti Kendra of Ron taluk. While leaving for work on Friday morning, Shankar told his family members that he will go to the site and return soon. The reason for the suicide is not yet known. Shankar's brother Krishna Gowda has alleged that it is not suicide but a planned murder. He said that Shankar did not have any debts to clear. In fact, he has a lot of property. "There is no reason for my brother to end his life. I don't know if there was a promotion issue. We don't know the exact reason. But if something was bothering him, he would have shared it with us", added Krishna.

Initiate energy exchange pacts with other states: Min

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

GEORGE had held a detailed meeting with officials of KPCL, KPTCL, and PCKL. The meeting focused on electricity generation, procurement, and transmission. The minister directed the officials to focus on adequate power generation to ensure no gap in demand and supply.

Taking stock of thermal power plants, George said last summer, they set a record by generating 3,600MW. He told the officials to make efforts to break this record. The units that have been shut down in Raichur, Yermarus and Ballari thermal power plants should be reopened after maintenance work by February, he said. The minister directed the officials to initiate dialogues with other states for energy exchange agreements. "Given the high costs associated with short-term electricity procurement, priority should be given to securing long-term contracts at lower rates. This approach will allow sale of excess electricity at higher rates during peak hours, reducing the financial burden on the state," George said.

He asked the officials to ensure power supply to farm pumpsets during daytime. Thermal and hydel plants should focus on generating electricity for use at night, he said.

A year on, Aditya L-1 provides insights into space weather

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

AS the one-year anniversary of Aditya-L1, India's first solar observatory spacecraft, approaches on January 6, researchers highlight its ground-breaking contributions. Since being successfully inserted into a halo orbit around the Sun-Earth L1 point, the satellite has provided crucial insights into 'solar flares' (sudden, intense bursts of radiation from the Sun), offering critical insights into the dynamics of the star.

The spacecraft's observations are helping scientists understand how these powerful energy bursts influence Earth's atmosphere, disrupt satellite communications, and affect power grids. Operating 24/7 from a vantage point four times the Earth-Moon distance, Aditya-L1 has been also studying coronal mass ejections (CMEs), and other phenomena that impact space weather, underscoring its role as an observer of the Sun.

Aditya-L1 has also delved deep into understanding coronal mass ejections (CMEs), massive eruptions of solar plasma and magnetic fields that are often linked to solar flares.

Speaking to TNIE, Dr BR Guruprasad, director of Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium (JNP) revealed that in July 2024, Aditya-L1 achieved a significant milestone by capturing and analyzing a CME triggered by a solar flare. Using its 'Visible Emission Line Coronagraph' (VELC), the spacecraft tracked the speed and trajectory of this ejection, providing data crucial for assessing its potential impact on Earth.

These observations were further supported by simultaneous data from other Indian satellites, including Chandrayaan-2 and Astrosat.

Operating from its vantage point at the L1 Lagrangian point, 1.5 million kilometers from Earth, Aditya-L1's position ensures uninterrupted observation of the Sun's outer atmosphere, or corona. Unlike satellites in Earth's orbit, which face periods of shadow, Aditya-L1's unique orbit allows continuous monitoring.

The mission's seven advanced payloads have been pivotal in uncovering the mysteries of the Sun, Dr Guruprasad said. He explained that the VELC, developed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics in Bengaluru, blocks light from the Sun's photosphere, enabling detailed studies of the corona. This is complemented by the Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT), which captures ultraviolet images of the Sun's photosphere and chromosphere, offering a comprehensive view of solar activity.

Meanwhile, the High Energy L1 Orbiting X-ray Spectrometer (HEL1OS) and Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer (SoLEXS) study solar flares in X-rays, while the Aditya Solar Wind Particle Experiment (ASPEX) and Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA) focus on solar wind and plasma dynamics, Dr Guruprasad explained, adding that Aditya-L1 has created a valuable archive of solar phenomena, recording flares and CMEs that offer multi-wavelength insights into the Sun's explosive behaviour.

Dr Guruprasad emphasised that the spacecraft has not only enhanced our understanding of solar phenomena but has also contributed to global space weather prediction efforts. By generating an extensive archive of solar data, Aditya-L1 has positioned itself as a critical resource for understanding and mitigating the impacts of solar storms on Earth's modern infrastructure.

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
Department of Prisons and Correctional Services
Tender Notification

1. For details, visit https://tntenders.gov.in/
2. Tender are invited by the Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Chennai – 8 for the supply of raw materials and other miscellaneous articles required for prison industries for the year 2025-2026.
3. The Tender documents can be downloaded at free of cost in the website https://tntenders.gov.in/ from 04.01.2025 to 05.02.2025 upto 03:00 P.M.

Last date and Time for downloading and submission of Tender Documents.

1.	Last Date and Time for downloading of Tender Documents	05.02.2025 upto 03.00 P.M.
2.	Last Date and Time for Submission of Tender Documents	05.02.2025 upto 03.00 P.M.
3.	Date and Time for opening of Tender Documents	05.02.2025 at 04.00 P.M.

4. Other details are available in Tender Documents.

DIPR.13/Tender/2025 (SD) DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRISONS AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES_HO_TNPCS

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/thenewindianexpress /@newindianexpress +The New Indian Express
Google Play App Store

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOST OF DOCUMENT

I/we, the undersigned bring to the notice to the general public that our client **R. Manikanta** S/o. Sri.K.Ramamurthy, aged about 32 years, residing at No.93, 3rd floor, 4th cross, 8th main, Hoysala Nagar, Rammurthynagar, Bengaluru-560016, we here by inform that SALE DEED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT NO.1001/1995-96, in book No.1, Volume No.2782, at pages 183-184, registered on 14-06-1995, registered at the office of the Sub-registrar, Kanakapura, in respect of Site No.361, Cheelur Gram Panchayath Property No.422/361, in Survey No.46 of Devarakaggalahalli, harohalli Taluk & Hobali, Ramanagara District. measuring 1200 Sq.Ft. has been lost, in this regard one Mr. Devadas, who is father of the previous site owner had lodged complaint in Harohalli P.S. in GSC No. 1346170600460, dt.15-05-2017. Please note that claims received without written evidence **within 15 days** from the date of paper publication of this notice there after will not be entrained.

MALLESH GOWDA, Advocate
No.21/6, 1st floor, Ramappa Building, Vasanthapura Main Road, Konanakunte Cross, Bengaluru-560111.

WESTERN RAILWAY
Material Management Department
VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/70/2024 Date 30.12.2024

S.N.	Short Description of item	Quantity	T.O.D.
751	Overhauling kit for KBI emergency brake	2346 Set	27-Jan-25
752	Bull Gear (72 Teeth) for WAP-7 Locos	46 Nos	27-Jan-25
753	Set of 1/1/4" Angle Cock OLP with Vent for FP and BP PIPE 3 Part	1609 Set	29-Jan-25
754	High Viscous Nylon (HVN)-66 Insulating Liners	1403880 Nos	28-Jan-25
755	6400 mm Thick Web Curved Switch for 1 in 8.5 Symmetrical Split turnout on PSC Sleepers	60 Set	29-Jan-25

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.ireps.gov.in and wr.indianrailways.gov.in. 0911

Like us on: facebook.com/WesternRly • Follow us on: X.com/WesternRly

RajCOMP Info Services Limited (RISL)
C-Block, 1st Floor, Yojana Bhawan, Tilak Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur

RISL द्वारा निम्न ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है :–

NIB No./ Date/ Unique bid no.	Particulars	Estimated Cost/ EMD	Start of sale /Last date
F4.3(621)/RISL/Tech/ 2024/7266 Dated 01/01/2025 RIS2425SLOB00070	RFP for selection of services Provider to provide Technical Support from OEM for Certifying Authority Solutiuon along with CCA documentation & Compliances for 3 years	Rs. 3.10 Cr	02.01.2025 / 22.01.2025

विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु इस वेबसाईट पर सम्पर्क करें – http://risl.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, http://doitc.rajasthan.gov.in and http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.

राज.संवाद/सी/24/9893 Additional Director

UCO BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
VIJAYANAGAR BRANCH
No, 36,Ground Floor, MRCR layout, Magadi Main Road, Govindraj Nagar Bangalore-560040

PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION SALE (for immovable properties)

(In terms of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002)

Whereas the Authorised Officer of the Bank has issued a Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act 2002 and there after in exercise of powers under Section 13(12) of SARFAESI Act 2002 has taken possession of properties mortgaged to Bank under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act 2002. The undersigned in the capacity of Authorised Officer has decided for sale of the following properties to public by E-auction and invite bids from the intending purchasers for purchase of the immovable properties mentioned hereunder on **"AS IS WHERE IS & AS IS WHAT IS"** basis.

Name & Address of Borrower's / Co applicant.	a) Date of Demand Notice b) Date of Physical Possession c) Present outstanding dues	a) Date & Time for inspection of the property b) bid submission last date c) Date & Time of E-Auction	a) Reserve Price b) EMD Amount c) Bid Increase Amount
Mr. Balaraj A (Main Borrower) S/o. Augustine L, # No.121 T C Palya Main Road, Near 12 Square Apartment, T C Palya K R Puram, Bangalore-560036. **Mrs. Maria Ashwini J(Co-Borrower) W/o. Mr. Balaraj A,** # No.121 T C Palya Main Road, Near 12 Square Apartment, T C Palya K R Puram, Bangalore-560036	a) **22/04/2021** b) **23/07/2021** c) **Rs.30,71,154.20/- plus interest and other charges from 29.02.2020**	a) **21-01-2025 Between 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM** b) **As per ebikray guidelines** c) **22-01-2025 between 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM**	a) **Rs.40,75,000/-** b) **Rs.4,07,500/-** c) **Rs.25,000/-**

Description of Immovable Property : All that piece and parcel of residential apartment bearing Flat No. 501 (2 BHK) in 4th Floor, measuring 1030 Sqft of Super Built up area in the Apartment building known as " MAITRI KANAKA RESIDENCY" Site No 167 & 168 BBMP Khatha No 2456/2206/9/1/167/168 SY No-9/1, 9th Cross Road Concord Layout Pattanagere Kengeri Hobli constructed in the Schedule 'A" herein above, together with 220 Sqft of undivided share, right, title, interest and ownership and sital area comprising of the flat consisting of Two Bedrooms, halls, dining, kitchen, balcony, utility, bathrooms and toilets consisting of flush shutter with handwood frames main door teakwood frame & shutter and Aluminum Windows having vitrified flooring and One Car parking marked as at the Stilt/ Basement Floor, in the Schedule "A' Property. **Boundaries:** East by: Open Space, West By: Corridor/Staircase, North By: Corridor, South By: Open Space. in the name of :- **Mr. Balaraj A**

A/C No. 20090210000939, IFSC Code : UCBA0002009, UCO Bank, Vijayanagar Branch, Bangalore-560040

Details of known encumbrances: Not Known

1) Sale shall be subjected to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Detailed terms and Conditions of the sale is available/ Published in the following websites/ Web Portal: **https://ebkray.in/eauction-psb/home**
2) The Properties are being sold on **"As is Where is Basis" and "As is What is Basis" and" Whatever There is Basis"**
3) The Particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorized Officers, but the Authorized Officer shall not beanswerable for any error, misstatement or Omission in this proclamation.
4) The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website. **https://ebkray.in/eauction-psb/home on date 22.01.2025 between 11:00 A.M. to 05:00 P.M.**
5) It is open to the Bank to appoint a representative and make self-bid and participate in the auction.
6) The final decision is vested with Authorised Officer.

Date: 03/01/2025, Place: Bengaluru **Authorised Officer, UCO Bank**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the general public, that my client **Sri. Avinash V,** S/o Sri Vijayasekar M, aged about 31 years, Residing at No. 295, 11th Cross, 25th Main Road, Near Oxford School, J. P. Nagar, 1st Phase, Bangalore-560 078 is going to purchase the property mentioned herein from its owner S/o Late S. Eshwar Rao Residing at No. 1254, Lakshmi Narayana Nivasa, Kavi Ranna Road, Opposite Kamala Nursing Home, Srinagar, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560 050. Original owner **Sri. S. E. Ramesh Babu** has lost all original documents of the schedule property.

If any Person/Persons having any objection/s over the said sale transaction, please file their written objection to my below mentioned address ***within 7 days*** of this notice with documentary proof, failing which my clients shall purchase the same, any objection received after 7 days shall not be proceed to considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Commercial Shop Property bearing BDA **Site No. 550 formed in Sy. No. 3 and 69, situated at Gavipura, Sunkenahalli, Bangalore,** now comes under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore and the BBMP has assigned the Schedule Property as Ward No. Old 52, New Ward No. 155 of Hanumanthanagar, Municipal No. 16, situated at Jhansi Rani Lakshmi Bai Road, 4th Main, and bounded on the: **East By:** Vacant Property, **West By:** Road, **North By:** Site No. 551, **South By:** Road.

Sd/-
H. R. Sunil Kumar,
Advocate and Legal Consultant,
No. 47/1-23, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main Road, Tata Silk Farm, K.R Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004 Ph No. 94496 74680

THE BANGALORE CITY CO-OP. BANK LTD.,
ESTD: 1907
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE: NO. 3, Pampamahakahvi Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalore -18.
Office: 26678572 : 26600512: 26609066. Tele Fax: (080) 26617980

(Rule 8 (1) POSSESSION NOTICE (for immovable property) (Symbolically)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorised officer of The Bangalore City Co.operative Bank Ltd., A.O., No.3, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalore-18 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Ordinance, 2002 (Ord. 3 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued and demand notice calling upon the undersigned borrowers/ legal heirs to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers/legal heirs having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/legal heirs and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Ordinance read with rule 9 of the said rule.

The borrowers / legal heirs in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of The Bangalore City Co.operative Bank Ltd., A.O., No.3, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalore-18.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Sl. No.	Name of the Loanee	Balance Outstanding	Particulars of Immovable Property & Measurement
PADMANABHANAGAR BRANCH			
01	Smt. J. Dhanalakshmi	Demand Notice Dated: 16.10.2024 Possession Notice Dated: 30.12.2024 Balance outstanding : Rs. 99,12,153/- as on 30.12.2024	Property & Measurement:- **No.02, Khatha No.09 of Kathriguppe Village, Khaneshumari House List No.24, Western Side Portion, 3rd Cross, Vivekananda Nagar, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, BBMP Ward No.54 of Srinivas Nagar, PID No. 54-279-2, Bengaluru.** Measuring: **East to West: 30 feet & North to South: 40 feet.** East by: **Eastern portion of the same no property,** West by: **Site No.25,** North by: **Road,** South by: **Site No.36.**
KORAMANGALA BRANCH			
02	Sri. Govindaraju. K	Demand Notice Dated : 14.08.2024 Possession Notice Dated : 30.12.2024 Balance outstanding : Rs.1,47,51,921/- as on 30.12.2024	Property & Measurement:- **No.618, Situated at Binnamangala Extension, 2nd Main Road, Indiranagar, 1st Stage, Presently coming under the Jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.82 of Hoysala Nagar, With PID No.82-1-618, Bengaluru.** Measuring: **East to West: Northern Side: 40 feet Southern Side: 35+5 feet & North to South: Eastern Side: 60.6 feet, Western Side: 26.6+40 feet. Total Measuring: 1020 Sq feet.** East by: **Property bearing No.617,** West by: **Property bearing No.619,** North by: **Property bearing No.637,** South by: **Partly Road & Partly property bearing No. 618/1.**
03	Sri. Amjad Khan. S	Demand Notice Dated : 01.10.2024 Possession Notice Dated : 30.12.2024 Balance outstanding : Rs. 79,64,375/- as on 30.12.2024	Property & Measurement:- **New No.40/2, Old No.1/8,1/21, Old Gurappanapalya Main Road, between Banneragatta Road, and Maruthi Co-Op Society Layout, BBMP Ward No.64 of Gurappanapalya, PID No.64-5-40/2, Bengaluru.** Measuring: **East to West: On the Southern Side 35 Feet 6 Inches, On the Northern Side 35 Feet & North to South: On the Eastern Side: 38 Feet 6 Inches On the Western Side 37 Feet 6 inches.** East by: **Remaining portion of the same property,** West by: **Property belongs to S.Amjad Khan(Site No.1/24),** North by: **Property of Nawaz Pasha,** South by: **Road.**

Date: 03.01.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
The Bangalore City Co-operative Bank Ltd.,

Tumkur Grain Merchants Co-op Bank Ltd.,
Head Office : B.H. Road, Tumkur-572103, Karnataka,
Phone : 0816-2257636 / 4021102-103, Fax : 0816-2255905,
Email : tgmc.ho@tgmcbank.com Website : www.tgmcbank.com

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF CHAPTER III OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002.

At their request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its below mentioned branches. The relevant particulars of the property on which they have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives / guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrower in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon them, was un-served/ not acknowledged / addressee left / this publication is now issued.

1. Name and Address of the Borrower: (1) M/s MSR Enterprises, Proprietor: Sri. Mohan Kumar S, S/o Sri Shankar M, Office At No 55, MSR Central, Banasawadi Main Road, Banasawadi, Bangalore 560043 **(2) Sri. Shankar M,** S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(3) Sri. Mohan Kumar S** S/o Sri Shankar M, S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(4) Smt. Bhagyamma,** W/o Shankar M, Residing At No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore – 560043.

(Details of Hypothecated assets and details of mortgaged properties of the Borrower)

Property- 1: Belongs to Sri Mohan Kumar S.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Old katha No 143/2, Present BBMP katha No 623/108/1, in property no 108/1, Situated 1st B Cross, Vijaya Bank Colony, Horamavu Village, KR Puram Hobli, Now Comes Under limits of BBMP, Horamavu ward No 25, Bangalore-43, measuring East to west 68 Feet and north to South 50 Feet in total Measuring 3400 Sq Ft along with Building and bounded on the : East By : Road, West By : Sharadha Apartment, North By: Property of Srinivas Reddy, South By : M S Bello Arcade.

Property- 2: Belongs to Sri Shankar M.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing BBMP Katha New No. 3, Old No. 214/2 (House List Katha No 231/284/1 & 231/284/2), site nos 2 & 3 and having its present PID No. 88-12-3 situated at Banaswadi Main Road, Ward No. 88, Banaswadi, Bangalore. Measuring East to West 43.9 ft + 36ft /2 and North to South 70.6 ft + 39.9ft/2 totally measuring 2207.23 Sq ft, and building thereon.Bounded on the East by : Ulsoor Ramaswamy Reddy's Property, West by: Krishnakumar Shetty's Property, North by: Banaswadi-Ramamurthy Nagar Main road, South by: N.Ramaswamy Reddy's Property.

Property-3 : Belongs to Sri Shankar M and Mohan Kumar S.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing BBMP Katha No. 499/9, In property No 253/1 and 251/2A (old No 251/2) and having its present PID No. 88-64-55, new muncipal 55 situated at Dodda Banaswadi, Krishna Rajapuram Hobli, Now comes Under the Jurisdication of BBMP ward Old No. 88, Present Ward Ward No. 27, Banaswadi, Bangalore-43, Measuring East To West on The Northern Side 45 Feet on the Southern Side 52 Feet 6 Inches And North to South on tThe Eastern Side 55 Feet on The Western Side 81 Feet 9 Inches in totally measuring 3076 Sq ft, and building thereon. Bounded on the : East by : Property of Ramachandra, West by: Property of Ismail, North by: Property of Bodannanavara muniswamy Reddy,South by: Road.

Account Number : 30304441608 **Limit : Rs.20,00,000/-**

Out Standing Loan Amount :- Rs.20,16,635/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred And Thirty Five Only) as on **02.01.2025** together with further interest thereon with effect from **Dt. 03.01.2025** at the contractual rates together with costs, charges, other monies until payment or realization.

Date of NPA: 29.06.2024 Demand Notice dtd: 03.01.2025 Branch : HRBR Layout Branch, Bangalore

2. Name and Address of the Borrower: (1) Sri Shankar M, S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(2) Sri. Mohan Kumar S, S/o Sri Shankar M** S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(3)Sri. Ravindra Reddy S,** S/o Late Venkataramana Reddy, No 4-172-1, 2nd Cross, Rajarajeshwari Extension Layout, Near Dooravani Nagar, Bangalore - 560016.

(Details of Hypothecated assets and details of mortgaged properties of the Borrower)

Description of the property - Belongs to Sri Shankar M.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing BBMP Katha New No. 3, Old No. 214/2 (House List Katha No 231/284/1 & 231/284/2), site nos 2 & 3 and having its present PID No. 88-12-3 situated at Banaswadi Main Road, Ward No. 88, Banaswadi, Bangalore. Measuring East to West 43.9 ft + 36ft /2 and North to South 70.6 ft + 39.9ft/2 totally measuring 2207.23 Sq ft, and building thereon Bounded on the: East by : Ulsoor Ramaswamy Reddy's Property, West by: Krishnakumar Shetty's Property, North by: Banaswadi-Ramamurthy Nagar Main road, South by: N Ramaswamy Reddy's Property.

Account Number : 30303295099 **Limit : Rs.1,40,00,000/-**

Out Standing Loan Amount :- Rs.70,35,811/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Eight Hundred And Eleven Only) as on **02.01.2025** together with further interest thereon with effect from **Dt. 03.01.2025** at the contractual rates together with costs, charges, other monies until payment or realization.

Date of NPA: 29.06.2024 Demand Notice dtd: 03.01.2025 Branch : HRBR Layout Branch, Bangalore

3. Name and Address of the Borrower: (1) Sri. Shankar M, S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(2) Sri. Mohan Kumar S,** S/o Sri Shankar M, S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya,MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(3) Smt. Akshatha S,** W/o Shashidhar C V, Residing At No 401, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony,Horamavu, Bangalore – 560043.

(Details of Hypothecated assets and details of mortgaged properties of the Borrower)

Description of the property- Belongs to Sri Shankar M and Mohan Kumar S.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing BBMP Katha No. 499/9, In property No 253/1 and 251/2A (old No 251/2) and having its present PID No. 88-64-55, situated at Dodda Banaswadi, KrishnaRajapuram Hobli, Now comes Under the Jurisdication of BBMP ward Old No 88, Present Ward Ward No. 27, Banaswadi, Bangalore-43, Measuring East to West on the Northern side 45 feet on the Southern side 52 feet 6 inches and North to South on the Eastern side 55 feet on the Western side 81 feet 9 inches in totally measuring 3076 Sq ft, and building thereon. Bounded on the: East by: Property of Ramachandra, West by: Property of Ismail, North by: Property of Bodannanavara muniswamy Reddy, South by: Road.

Account Number : 30304190662 **Limit : Rs.2,00,00,000/-**

Out Standing Loan Amount :- Rs. 1,57,80,156/- (Rupees One Crore Fifty Seven Lakh Eighty Thousand One Hundred And Fifty Six Only) as on **Dt. 02.01.2025** together with further interest thereon with effect from **Dt. 03.01.2025** at the contractual rates together with costs, charges, other monies until payment or realization.

Date of NPA: 29.06.2024 Demand Notice dtd: 03.01.2025 Branch : HRBR Layout Branch, Bangalore

4. Name and Address of the Borrower: (1) Sri. Shankar M, S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(2) Sri. Mohan Kumar S, S/o Sri Shankar M,** S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, Vijaya Bank Colony Extension, Banasawadi, Bangalore -560043 **(3) Smt. Bhagyamma,** W/o Sri Shankar M, S/o Late Muniswamy Reddy, No 401, Muneshwara Nilaya, MSR Bello Arcade, 1st Main, 1st B Cross, Vijaya Bank Colony,Horamavu, Bangalore-560043.

(Details of Hypothecated assets and details of mortgaged properties of the Borrower)

Property- 1 : Belongs to Sri Mohan Kumar S.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Old katha No 143/2, Present BBMP Katha No 623/108/1, in property no 108/1, Situated 1st B Cross, Vijaya Bank Colony, Horamavu Village, KR Puram Hobli, Now Comes Under limits of BBMP, Horamavu ward No 25, Bangalore-43, measuring East to west 68 Feet and north to South 50 Feet in total Measuring 3400 Sq Ft along with Building and bounded on the : East By : Road, West By : Sharadha Apartment North By : Property of Srinivas Reddy, South By : M S Bello Arcade.

Property- 2 :Belongs to Sri Shankar M.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing BBMP Katha New No. 3, Old No. 214/2 (House List Katha No 231/284/1 & 231/284/2), site nos 2 & 3 and having its present PID No. 88-12-3 situated at Banaswadi Main Road, Ward No. 88, Banaswadi, Bangalore. Measuring East to West 43.9 ft + 36ft /2 and North to South 70.6 ft + 39.9ft/2 totally measuring 2207.23 Sq ft, and building thereon. Bounded on the : East by : Ulsoor Ramaswamy Reddy's Property, West by: Krishnakumar Shetty's Property, North by: Banaswadi-Ramamurthy Nagar Main Road, South by : N Ramaswamy Reddy's Property.

Property-3 : Belongs to Sri Shankar M and Mohan Kumar S.

All that piece and parcel of the Immovable Property bearing BBMP Katha No. 499/9, In property No 253/1 and 251/2A (old No 251/2) and having its present PID No. 88-64-55, new muncipal 55 situated at Dodda Banaswadi, KrishnaRajapuram Hobli,Now comes Under the Jurisdication of BBMP ward Old NO 88, Present Ward Ward No. 27, Banaswadi, Bangalore-43, Measuring east to west on the northern side 45 feet on the Southern side 52 feet 6 inches and North to South on the Eastern side 55 feet on the Western side 81 feet 9 inches in totally measuring 3076 Sq ft, and building thereon. Bounded on the : East by : Property of Ramachandra,West by: Property of Ismail, North by: Property of Bodannanavara muniswamy Reddy, South by: Road.

(1) Account Number : 30304562973 **Limit : Rs.1,50,00,000/-**
(2) Account Number : 30304973722 **Limit : Rs.80,00,000/-**

Out Standing Loan Amount :- Rs.1,91,66,515/- (Rupees One Crore Ninety One Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Five Hundred And Fifteen Only) as on **Dt. 02.01.2025** together with further interest thereon with effect from **Dt. 03.01.2025** at the contractual rates together with costs, charges, other monies until payment or realization.

Date of NPA: 29.06.2024 Demand Notice dtd: 03.01.2025 Branch : HRBR Layout Branch, Bangalore

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of the notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (2) of the section 13 of SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section (13) of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtained written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date : 03.01.2025
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
TUMKUR GRAIN MERCHANTS CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore-560068

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA).
A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Thirupathi T & Umamaheswari T/ No 5 15 Orappam Bargur Krishnagiri Bargur Taluk 635108 Sf No2 2C3 Krishnagiri-635001/ LBSAL00005248026, LBSAL00005248033 & LBSAL00005248034	Schedule Of Property In Orappam Village Of Krishnagiri Taluk Attached To The Registration District Of Krishnagiri And Sub Registration District Of Bargur And Also Attached To The Village Panchayat Limit Of Orappam And Union Council Of Bargur. Survey Number: 72/2C H.A.0.61.5 In This Item No.1 Bounded As East: Item No.2 Common Right Property West: S.no. 72/2B, 72/2C2, 72/4C Land North: Chennai Road (N.H-46) South: S.no.72/6 In This Middle Acre.0.40 (Forty Cents) (or) 17,440 Sq.feet Full Right Item No.2 Bounded As Follows: East: Remaining Portion Of Same Survey Number West: Property Of Item No.1 North: Chennai Road (N.H-46) South: S.no.72/6 In This Middle Acre.0.20 (East To West 38 Links, North To South 525 Links) Land In ½ (half Right) Ac.0.10 Cents Or 4360 Sq Feet Full Right. And The Above Two Items Are Total Extent Of Ac.0.50 (Fifty Cents) (or) 21800 Sq Feet House Site Covered Under This Deed Of Gift Settlement.in This Present New Subdivision Number Is S.no.72/2c3.	20/11/2024 Rs. 1,49,65,691.39/-	03/09/ 2024
2.	Ramesh Meganathan & Sudha Ramesh/ Project Approval No BNG 15 5527 Flat No H-908 9th Floor Wing H Tower H Bharathiya City Nikko Homes Phase 2 Chokkanahalli Village Yelahanka Hobli Bangalore 560064 S Y No. 35 38 48 49 50 Bangalore- 560064/ LBVLR00005786138	Larger Property: (Description Of Entire Property) All That Property Consisting Of Lands In Municipal Nos. 6/1, 6/1/1 And 6/2 (comprised Of Land In Sy.nos. 32/1, 32/2, 32/3, 32/4, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42/1, 42/2, 43/1, 43/2, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49 And 50), Totally Measuring 124 (One Hundred And Twenty Four) Acres Approximately Situated At Chokkanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk And Bounded On The:- East By: Nagareshwara Nagenahalli Village Boundary; West By: Remaining Portion Of Sy.no.32/1 And Sy.nos.36, 51, 53, 55 And 56 Of Chokkanahalli Village; North By: Remaining Portion Of Sy.no.32/1 And Kannur Village Boundary; And South By: Property In Sy.no.56 And Nagareshwara Nagenahalli Village Boundary. Schedule 'A' Property: (Description Of The Land On Which Nikoo Homes-ii Is Constructed) All That Part And Parcel Of Immovable Converted Property Being Part Of Municipal No. 6/1 (Comprised Of Survey Sy. Nos.35 (P), 38 (P), 48, 49 (P) And 50 (P)], Totally Measuring About 12 Acres 24 Guntas Or 5,48,856 Sq. Ft., (less 1274.02 Sq.mtrs Or 13,713.55 Sq.feet Earmarked For Civic Amenities Site) And Situated At Chokkanahalli Village In Municipal Ward No.5 Of Jakkur, Yelahanka Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk And The Property Is Bounded By:- East : Road: West: Private Property In Sy. Nos.51 & 52; North : Proposed Peripheral Ring Road; And South: Road And Private Property In Sy.nos.55, 52 & 51. Schedule 'B' Property: (Description Of Undivided Share) 131 Sq. Ft. Of Undivided Share, Right, Title, Interest And Ownership In The Land In Schedule 'A' Property. Schedule 'C' Apartment: (Description Of Apartment) All That Residential Apartment Bearing No.H-908 In Nineth Floor Of Tower-'H' In Wing-'H', In The Project Viz., 'Nikoo Homes-II' Constructed On Schedule 'A' Property And Forming Part Of Development In 'Bhartiya City' And Apartment Having 458 Sq. Ft. Of Carpet Area And 76 Sq. Ft. Of Sit-Out/Balcony/Deck, Utility & External Wall Area And 159 Sq. Ft. Of Proportionate Share In Common Areas Such As, Lobbies, Lifts, Staircases And All Other Areas Of Common Use And Totally Measuring 693 Sq. Ft. Of Super Built-Up Area, With Right To Use One Covered Car Parking Space In The Ground Floor/ Lower/upper Basement Floor And The Apartment Is Bounded By: East: Corridor In 9th Floor Of Tower-'H' In Wing-'H' Of 'nikoo Homes-II"; West: Open Towards Open Space In Tower-"H" In Wing-'H' Of 'nikoo Homes-II"; North: Apartment No.H-909 In 9th Floor Of Tower-'H' In Wing-'H' Of 'Nikoo Homes-II"; South: Apartment No.H-907 In 9th Floor Of Tower-'H' In Wing-'H' Of 'Nikoo Homes-II'.	15/11/2024 Rs. 29,75,581.52/-	08/08/ 2024

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: January 04, 2025
Place: Bangalore

Sincerely, Authorised Signatory
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
INDULGE
Your Guide to Spicy Living

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank इलाहाबाद ALLAHABAD

THOUSAND LIGHTS BRANCH
Kannammai Buildings, 611, Anna Salai Chennai - 600 006.
Telephone : 044 - 2829 1622 / 2126. email : thousandlights@indianbank.co.in

APPENDIX IV-A [See Proviso to rule 8(6)]

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the **Physical possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Thousand Lights Branch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is"** and **"Whatever there is"** on **22.01.2025,** for recovery of **Rs.4,81,08,460.06 (Rupees Four crores eighty one lakhs eight thousand four hundred sixty and paise six only) (as on 31.12.2024)** with further interest, costs, other charges and expenses thereon from 01.01.2025, due to the Indian Bank, Thousand Lights Branch, Secured Creditor from :

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE BORROWER / GUARANTOR **(1) M/s. Fireman Refractories Private Limited, (Borrower), Represented by its Directors : Mr. V. Velmurugan, Mr. S. Umesh, Mr. Vasu Balaji, Mr. Vasu Deivasigamani, Mr. Abdul Khaleel Ahmed & Mrs. S. Thenmoli,** Plot No.1542, H Block, 5th Street, 11 Main Road, Anna Nagar, Chennai - 600 040, **Also at :** Pennadam Road, T Pudayur Sirumangalam PO, Virudhachalam, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu - 606 302. **(2) Mr. V. Velmurugan, (Director),** S/o Vaithilingam, 256, Nehru Illam, Suriya Gandhi Poo Street, Periyar Nagar, South Virudhachalam, Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadu - 606 001. **(3) Mr. S. Umesh, (Director),** S/o Saminathan, Door No.15/H 15, Avalapalli HUDCO,Bagalpur Road, Hosur, Avalapalli Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu - 635 109. **(4) Mr. Vasu Balaji, (Director),** S/o Vasu, 332, Vallalar Nagar, Ayyanthiru Maligai, Salem, Kannankurichi, Tamil Nadu - 636 008. **(5) Mr. Vasu Deivasigamani, (Director),** S/o Deivasigamani, 332, Vallalar Nagar, Ayyanthiru Maligai, Salem, Kannankunchi,TamilNadu - 636 008. **(6) Mr. Abdul Khaleel Ahmed, (Director),** S/o Khaderabdul Wahab, 63/1, Mir Bakshi Ali Street, Royapettah,Chennai - 600 014. **(7) Mrs. S. Thenmoli, (Director),** W/o P. Arjunan, H. No.5/38, Cholan Street, ChinnaThirupathi, Salem - 636 008. **(8) Mr. U. Vaithiyalingam, (Guarantor),** S/o Utandi, 256,Nehru Illam, Suriya Gandhi Poo Street, Periyar Nagar, South Virudhachalam, Cuddalore District,Tamil Nadu - 606 001. **(9) Mr. P. Arjunan, (Guarantor),** S/o Palani Ponnusamy, H. No.5/36, Cholan Street,

Government of Karnataka
Department Of Health and Family Welfare
OFFICE OF THE HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT, VIJAYANAGAR DIST
E-mail: dhovijayanagara21@gmail.com
Telephone: 08394-227040

No: DHO/Tender Notification/DMF-2741/01/2024-25 **Date: 01.01.2025**

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

District Health and Family Welfare Officer Vijayanagar is inviting application to provide Mobile health services to selected 20 remote villages of Harapan Halli taluka from eligible NGOs ON QCB System for the one year. The fund is provided under DMF scheme. The tender is floated under e-procurement (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)platform. (Tender Amount :111.00 Lakhs)

Interested or eligible NGO's may upload the document between date:04.01.2025 time 04:00 pm to date: 15.01.2025 time 04:00 pm.

For more information agencies/persons may contact the office phone number :08394-227040 or in persons during office hours.

Sd/-District health and Family Welfare Officer Vijayanagar

DIPR/Vijayanagar/2024-25/KSMCA/RO No/445

Government of Karnataka Zilla Panchayat, Chitradurga

Office of The District Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department,Chitradurga

E-mail:-dobcmchitradurga@gmail.com Ph. No:08194-235034

ಸಂ. ಹಿಂವರ್ಗ/ಸಬ್ಬಂದಿ/ಹೊ.ಸಂ/ಸಿಆರ್-36/2024-25 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 01.01.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender Invited Through E-Procurement, Tenders can be entered through the e-procurement portal website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in for the year of 2024-25 for District office of Backward Classes Welfare Department and vacancies in the offices of Taluk backward classes welfare officers Data entry Operator Posts and Backward Classes vacant Position for Cooks in Hostel, Cooking assistants as well night watchmen as well vacant position for cook at Moorarji Desai Residential School, cook, cooking assistants and night watchmen, cleaning staff and Peon and from other qualified organizations interested in obtaining staff service for other posts through the agency.

(1) District Name: Chitradurga
(2) Estimated amount of e-tender: Rs. 649.76 Lakhs
(3) EMD amount: Rs. 9.74 Lakhs (4) Last Date for Submission of Tender: 31.01.2025. Time 5:00 More Information Can Be obtained from this office during office hours and by logging on to the Website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/CTA/KSMCA/474/2024-25

Sd/- District Officer, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Chitradurga

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केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

HI-TECH AGRICULTURE FINANCE BRANCH
Account Section, Krishi Bhavan, Nrupatunga Road, Hudson Circle Bangalore-560001.
Ph No.080-22223249, Email: cb2373@canarabank.com

NOTICE FOR EXERCISING THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION UNDER SECTION 13 (8) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS "THE ACT").

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank, Hi-Tech Agriculture Finance Branch, Bengaluru, Karnataka** (hereinafter referred to as "the Secured Creditor"), appointed under the Act do hereby issue this notice, under Section 13(8) of the Act read with Rule 8 (6) of the SARFAESI Rules, to you all as under:

As you all are aware that the secured creditor had issued the Demand Notices, under Section 13(2) of the Act, on **13.11.2023,** to the borrower **Sri. M V Venkataramappa S/o** Late Munishami R Rajendrahalli Byrakuru Hobli Mulabagilu Kolar District**, 2. Smt. Narayanamma** W/o M V Venkataramappa, **Guarantor 1. Sri. Ramesh V** S/o MV Venkataramappa, **Both are residing at:** Byrakuru Hobli Mulabagilu Kolar District **(Name of Borrower/ Mortgagor/Guarantor),** the mortgagor and the guarantors (above mentioned Names), demanding to pay an amount of **Rs. 1,12,16,680 /-** (Rupees One Crore Twelve Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Only) and interest stated thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notices.

Since, the Borrowers / Firm, the mortgagors and the Guarantor (above mentioned names) having failed to repay the amount mentioned in the above said demand notices, the Authorized Officer under Section 13(4) of the Act had taken symbolic possession of the secured assets described in the Possession Notice dated **07.02.2024.** Further, the said Symbolic/ Physical possession notice was duly published in **The Indian Express and Samyuktha Karnataka** newspapers in **Kolar** on **09.02.2024.**

To comply with the provision of SARFAESI Act, 2002 read with Rule 8(6) of SARFAESI Rules, you all are hereby given a last and final opportunity to redeem and reclaim the secured assets, which are in possession of the secured creditor, within 30 days from the receipt of this notice, by discharging the liability of **Rs. 1,12,16,680 /-** (Rupees One Crore Twelve Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Only) as on **13.11.2023,** plus subsequent interest, costs and expenses in full, failing which the sale notice under the Act will be published in the newspaper specifying one of the following modes mentioned below, to sell the secured assets: By obtaining quotations from the persons dealing with similar secured assets or otherwise interested in buying assets; or By inviting tenders from the public; or. By holding public auction including through e-auction mode; or. By private treaty.

As per Section 13(8) of the Act, you are entitled to redeem the secured Assets at any time before the date of publication of sale notice in Newspapers, failing which your Right to redeem the mortgaged property as per Section 13(8) of the Act shall stand extinguished.

This is without prejudice to any other rights available to the secured creditor under the subject Act/ or any other law in force.

Date : 02.01.2025
Place : Bengaluru

Sd/-Authorized Officer
Canara Bank

RAIL COACH FACTORY KAPURTHALA

E-TENDER NOTICE

On-line bids are invited by PCMM/RCF on behalf of President of India for the following item(s):-

Sr.No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty. (Nos/Sets)	EMD(₹)
1.	17241578A/22.01.2025	**1)** Set of FRP Modular Toilet with manufacturing process SMC for LHB SCN and GS Amrit Bharat Coaches. **2)** Set of FRP Modular Toilet with manufacturing process SMC for LHB SLR HOG Amrit Bharat Coaches.	1) 380.00 Set 2) 40.00 Set	2000000/-
2.	17241597/31.01.2025	Endwall Door Complete	2443 Nos	2000000/-
3.	17241638/03.02.2025	**1)** Roof Ceiling Arrgt. for LHB SCN EOG Coaches. **2)** Set of FRP Ceiling Sheet assemblies for LHB Chair Car. **3)** Set of Ceiling Sheet Assemblies for LHB AC2T Coaches. **4)** Set of FRP side wall panels for LHB Chair Car for 200 KMPH with Automatic Doors. **5)** Set of FRP Ceiling Panels for LHB GS Coaches. **6)** Set of FRP Sidewall Panels for LHB GS Coaches. **7)** Set of Side wall Panels for LHB SCN Coach with Honey Comb Partition Frames. **8)** Set of FRP Roof Panels for LHB SLR HOG Coaches (31-Seater).	1) 38.00 Set, 2) 46.00 Set, 3) 27.00 Set, 4) 46.00 Set, 5) 318.00 Set, 6) 294.00 Set, 7) 58.00 Set, 8) 24.00 Set.	2000000/-
4.	17241659/27.01.2025	Set of Aluminium Floor End Profile for Antyodaya Coach.	484 Set	182470/-
5.	05241929/03.02.2025	Front Part Complete	26 Nos	94190/-
6.	05241646A/06.02.2025	Set of Doorway Partition for MEMU/DMC	83 Sets	168040/-
7.	05241771A/31.01.2025	Set of Door Cut Out Complete	25 Sets	NIL
8.	05241897/31.01.2025	Brake Disc for Wheel Set	10325 Nos.	2000000/-
9.	01241410/04.02.2025	Link Pin	17130 Nos.	125320/-
10.	05241879/05.02.2025	Pillars (2 Type)	7517 Nos.	114460/-

1. For details and making On-line bids, visit Website **http://ireps.gov.in** Drawings/specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in. Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at website http://www.cce.gov.in. 2.** All Limited tenders and Advertised tenders will normally close at 11:25 Hrs and 14:25 Hrs respectively on the stipulated date and will be opened at 11.30 Hrs and 14.30 Hrs. **3.** Tender at **Sr. No. 1 to 4** will be opened at RCF, Kapurthala and Tender at **Sr. No. 5 & 10** will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi-110002. **4.** For queries contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF Helpdesk at 011-23378658. **NOTE:** "GST No. of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them".

PCMM

CORRIGENDUM: (1) Tender No. 05241729 for Supply & Installation of Nose Cone Set of Carlines **Due date may be read as 02.01.2025** instead of 26.12.2024. **(2)** Tender No. 05241703 for Set of Pipe Sealing Arrgt. for LHB Non AC Coaches **Due date may be read as 21.01.2025** instead of 31.12.2024. **(3)** Tender No. 12231399B for Non AC Area Ceiling Arrgt. for LHB AC 3Tier Coaches **Due date may be read as 17.01.2025** instead of 03.01.2025.

PCMM

R.O. No. 109-S/2024-25 **Dated: 03.01.2025**

INDUSIND BANK LIMITED

Registered Office : 2401, Gen. Thimmayya Road (Cantonment), Pune -411 001.
Consumer Finance Division : New No. 34, G.N. Chetty Road, T. Nagar, Chennai – 600 017
State Address:IndusInd Bank Limited,CFD Division, No.87, Bull Temple road, Basavangudi,Bangalore - 560004

POSSESSION NOTICE
(Under Rule 8(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **M/s. IndusInd Bank Ltd.**, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter the said Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (hereinafter the said Rules) has issued demand Notice to the below mentioned Borrowers/ Guarantors to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower(s) having failed to repay the said amount with further interest within the said period, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers in particular and to the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on this date mentioned against the Names of the Borrowers / Guarantors. Any dealings with the said properties shall be subject to the prior charge of M/s. IndusInd Bank Ltd., for the amounts mentioned against the borrowers and **incidental expenses, cost, charges and interest thereon.** The Borrowers attention is invited to Provisions of Sub-section (8) of Sec.13 of the Act, in respect of the time available to redeem the secured assets

S. No	Name of Borrower /Guarantor Loan Agreement Numbe	Demand Notice Date / Possession Date	Outstanding Amount
1	1.Ms.R.K.M. Padma ..Borrower 2. Mr.Bhaskar .Co- Borrower 3.Mr.Sudhir No.13,.Co- Borrower 4.L.Ramakrishnappa, --Guarantor Loan Agreement Number:KBB00194M	17.10.2024 / 31-12-2024.	Rs.73,54,696.35/- (Rupees Seventy three Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Six Hundred ninty Six and Paise Thirty Five Only) on 31.12.2024 and further interest thereon.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : All that piece and Parcel of land and building constructed **in the residential Property No 13,** List Katha No. 661/3/13, Survey No 2/1, in Gramatana, Situated at Arakere Village. Bangalore South Taluk, Begur Hobli measuring 2430 Sq.ft Bangalore, and bounded on **East by :** Road,**West by;** Property No 14, **North by:** Private Property, **South by:** Property No 12

Date:31-12-2024,
Place:Bangalore

Sd/-Authorized Officer,
For IndusInd Bank limited

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Stressed Assets Recovery Branch
#11/90, 3rd Floor, Opp. Trust Well Hospitals,
J C Road, Bangalore – 560002.
Tel: 080 2594 3663. Fax: 080 2594 3664. Email Id: sbi.05173@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (RULE - 8(1))
(For Immovable Property)

Account No. HL Maxgain 35412436803/ TL Xpress Credit 38260374579

Whereas

The undersigned, being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (No. 3 of 2002) Issued a Demand Notice dated 25.10.2024 calling upon the joint **borrowers viz : Mr. Jagadeesh.N & Mrs. R. Tanuja,** residing at Flat No. 301, 3rd Floor, "Balaji Residency, 10th G Cross, Sanjeevappa Layout, Nagavarapalya, C.V. Raman Nagar, Bangalore 560 093, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 28,04,134/- (Rupees twenty eight lakhs four thousand one hundred and thirty four only) as on 23.10.2024** and interest & expenses thereon within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notice.

Since the borrowers have failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the joint borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 and 9 of the said rules on **02.01.2025.**

The joint Borrowers in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the state bank of india for an aggregate of **Rs.28,87,706.00 (Rupees TWENTY EIGHT LAKHS EIGHTY SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED AND SIX Only) at on 31.12.2024** plus interest and other expenses thereon.

The borrowers/mortgagors attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing flat No. 301. (Two Bed room flat) in the third floor, Block A, in the Building known as Balaji Residency Apartments, measuring 901 sq.ft of super built area and one covered car parking space in the apartment along with 230 sq ft of undivided share in the land right, title, interest and ownership in the Property bearing site No. 9A in Block A, having BBMP Katha No 102/301, PID No. 83-408-102-301, BBMP Ward No.83, situated at 10th G Cross, Sanjeevappa Layout. Nagavarapalya, CV Raman Nagar, Bangalore 560093, property bearing site No. 9A, presently having Mahanagara Palika Katha No. 102, PID No. 83-408-102, situated at Sanjeevappa Layout, Nagavarapalya, K.R. Pura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, now coming under the limits of BBMP, measuring East to West 60 ft, North to South 32 ft. totally measuring 1920 sq.ft and **bounded on : East by:** 20 feet road, **West by:** 20 feet road, **North by:** 30 feet road, **South by:** Site No 8A. The Building is constructed with brick and cement walls, RCC roofing, steel windows, wooden doors, ceramic tiles flooring, with electricity, water and sanitary facility.

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 02.01.2025

Sd/-
Authorised Officer
SBI, SARB, BENGALURU

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Regional Office East
86, Spencer Tower, M G Road,
Bengaluru-560001, Ph.No. 080-25310112
E-mail : blrroeastrec@canarabank.com

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable / movable Property under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical (Strike whichever is not applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Regional Office East Branch, Bangalore** of the **Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is"** on, for recovery of below mentioned amount.

Ulsoor Branch , E-Auction Date: 24.01.2025

1. Borrower(s): (1) R Ranjeth S/o N Rajendran, **(2) N Rajendran, (3) R Rajesh** S/o N Rajendran, **All are residing at:** No 202 A Block, SBI Staff Quarters Ford Showroom, Binny Mill Garden Magadi Rd, Bangalore, Karnataka-560023.

Total liabilities **Rs.50,64,141.79** (Rupees Fifty Lakh Sixty Four Thousand One Hundred Forty One and Paise Seventy Nine Only) **as on 30.12.2024** plus interest & charges.

The reserve price will be Rs.46,00,000.00 (Rupees Forty Six Lakh only) and the **earnest money deposit will be Rs.4,60,000.00** (Rupees Four Lakh Sixty Thousand Only). **The Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before 23.01.2025 by 4.00 PM.**

Name of Title holder : Mr. R Ranjeth, Mr N Rajendran and Mr R Rajesh

Description of the Immovable : No-1, New Municipal No-2/3-2, Sy No-220, BBMP Khatha PID No-85-47-2/3-2, Nanjudappa garden, Cox Town, Doddigunta, Saravanagna Nagar, Bangalore-560005. East by: Drain, West by: Land of Nanjundappa and others, North by: Land of Nanjundappa and others, South by: Anjanappa's land with common passage of 4 feet leading to the road.

HSR Layout Branch , E-Auction Date: 18.01.2025

2. Borrower(s): (1) M/s Sthairya Ventures (Borrower), 36 Rosewood Apartment, 19th Cross, HSR Layout Sector 3, Bengaluru, Koramangala, Bangalore-560102. **(2) Sri Souparna Venkatesh (Proprietor & Borrower),** No.90, 17th Main, 19th Cross, HSR Layout Sector 3, Bangalore -560102. **(3) Ms Santhoshi Devi (Guarantor)** W/o Ravi Chandra Reddy B N, 1172, 5th Main Road, Sector 7, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102.

Total liabilities **Rs. 63,85,767.03** (Rupees Sixty Three Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Seven and Paise Three Only) as on **30.12.2024** plus interest & charges.

Property: The reserve price will be Rs.70,20,000.00 (Rupees Seventy Lakh Twenty Thousands Only) and **the earnest money deposit will be Rs.7,02,000.00** (Rupees Seven Lakh Two Thousand Only). The Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before **17.01.2025 by 4.00 PM.**

(1) Name of Title holder : M/s Sthairya Ventures, Represented By Its Proprietor Sri Souparna Venkatesh

Description of the Movable : Hypothecation of Stock and Book Debts.

(2) Name of Title holder : Ms Santhoshi Devi W/O Ravichandra Reddy B

Description of the Immovable : All that the piece and parcel of residential Flat No 107, first floor, "sapthagiri apartment" at new corporation Khatha no.2/20, of Srinivagilu village, stag extention, BBMP ward no.68, (pid no.68-9-to/20)having 1300 sq. feet of super built up area of building one covered car parking, having all civic amenities, mosaic and vitrified tiles flooring, situated at Srinivagilu village, stag extension, Begur hobli, Bangalore South taluk, with an undivided area of 592 sq.ft (54.95 sq mts).

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website: **www.canarabank.com** or may contact **Canara Bank, Branch Manager through Regional Office East Bangalore, Canara bank, Ph. No. 080-25310112 OR the service provider M/S PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd https://baanknet.com** during office hours on any working day.

Date : 03.01.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION (Through KPP Portal Only)

Tenders are invited through KPP Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** under **"GOODS"** category as per RTPS /BTPS requirements for the following works.

Procurement of **1. KPCL/2024-25/IND1347**, Bowl mill spares for Unit-8 of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 35,500/-. 2. KPCL/2024-25/IND0957/CALL-4**, Journal guard frame assembly etc., EMD: **Rs. 36,000/-. 3. KPCL/2024-25/IND1407**, 2 layer Carbon Brushes pertaining to Generator & Excitation Systems. EMD: **Rs. 25,000/-. 4. KPCL/2024-25/IND1400**, Refractory for BM-1 & 2 of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 14,400/-. 5. KPCL/2024-25/IND1405**, Pressure Seal rings for BM-1 of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 4,200/-. 6. KPCL/2024-25/IND1404**, APH Heating Element Baskets spares for unit 3 & 4 of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 2.30 Lakhs. 7. KPCL/ 2024-25/IND1403**, Boiler pressure parts for unit 5 - 8 of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 17,700/-.** Last date for receipt of tenders: **06.01.2025, 16:00Hrs.** (For Sl. No. 1, 2, 4, 5 & 7), **08.01.2025, 16:00Hrs.** (For Sl. No. 3) and **21.01.2025, 16:00Hrs.** (For Sl. No. 6). Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (Purchase), RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar - 584170, Raichur District,** Mobile No.: **9449597966.** E-mail: **eeprtps@gmail.com.**

BELLARY THERMAL POWER STATION

1. KPCL/2024-25/IND1397, Date: 28.12.2024, Sodoim Silicate. **2. KPCL/2024-25/IND1398, Date: 28.12.2024,** Coal Handling Spares. **3. KPCL/2024-25/IND1401, Date: 28.12.2024,** O Rings. **3. KPCL/2024-25/IND1410, Date: 28.12.2024,** Apron feeder drive sprocket & pan fasteners. **4. KPCL/2024-25/IND1411, Date: 28.12.2024,** Round & Square Bars. Last date for receipt of tenders: **14.01.2025.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (Purchase)BT, BTPS, KPCL, Kudathini, Bellary District,** Mobile No.: **094808 30342.** E-mail: **eepurchasebtps@gmail.com.**

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

CIN No: U85110KA1970SGC001919

ABSTRACT BID NOTIFICATION

(Through KPP Portal only)

Bids in two covers are invited through "e" Procurement Portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from reputed bidders with proven track record of successful completion of similar works.

GERUSOPPA HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT

1) No.: KPCL/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT2046/Call-3 Date: 26.12.2024 "Supply, Erection, Testing & Commissioning of 380 mtr of 3x95+1x70 sqmm 11 KV Aerial Bunched(AB) cable connected to Jackwell water treatment plant at Gerusoppa project". EMD: **Rs. 11,500/-** Last Date & Time for online submission of tenders: **06.01.2025 up to 16:00 Hrs.** Further details can be had from office of the **Executive Engineer (O&M)GP,** KPCL, Gerusoppa-581384, Honnavar (Tq), U.K. (Dist). Mobile: 9449598827.

KALINADI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT STAGE-I

2)No.: KPCL/2024-25/EL/WORK_INDENT2447 dated 30.12.2024 "Replacement of 7.5/8 mtr poles by 9mtr. Poles & providing intermediate poles on existing Kulagi to BP DAM 11KV feeder for a span of 10km, releasing and restringing of existing rabbit conductor. EMD : **Rs. 1,27,117/-. Period of Completion:** 60 days for supply of materials and 60 days for successful completion of work. Last Date & Time for online submission of tenders: **15.01.2025 up to 17:30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from office of the **The Executive Engineer(O,PS&C)Nagjhari,** KPCL, Ambikanagar-581363, Uttara Kannada Dist. Karnataka State. Mobile: 9449599118.

KALINADI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT STAGE-II

3)No.: KPCL/2024-25/BR/WORK_INDENT2433 Restoration of cause way of Kadra Dam. Amount put to tender: **Rs. 65.63 Lakhs**. EMD : **Rs. 1,31,260/-** Contract Period: **4 months (excluding monsoon)**. Last Date & Time for online submission of tenders: **06.01.2025 up to 16:30 Hrs.** Further details can be had from office of the **The Executive Engineer(Civil)Kadra,** KPCL, Kadra-581396.

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Regional Office West
Chitrapur Bhavan, 8th Main, 15th Cross,
Malleshwaram, Bengaluru-560055.

(Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property)

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical (Strike whichever is not applicable)possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of , **Magadi Raod -I, (DP Code -1174) Bengaluru of the Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and " Whatever there is"** on **22.01.2025** for recovery of below mentioned amount.

E-AUCTION DATE: 22.01.2025

Borrower and Mortgagor: (1) Mr. Udaya U B S/o U V Biliyappa, Class I PWD Contractor, Govt Junior College Road, Thirthahalli, Shimogga, Karnataka-577432. **Also at: Mr. Udaya U B** S/o U V Biliyappa #23, Melina Suligudu (Majare) Sulagodu (Asali) Hosanagar Taluk Shimogga-577432. **Also at: Mr.Udaya U B** S/o U V Biliyappa No 15 Jenukal house Ganesha Block 4th cross Mahalakshmi layout Bangalore 560086.

Rs. 25,68,154.14 (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Sixty Eight Thousand One Hundred and Fifty Four and Fourteen Paise only) as on **01.01.2025** and interest and other charges there on from **02.01.2025.**

Reserve Price: Rs. 28.35 lacs **EMD: Rs. 2.83 lacs**

Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before: **21.01.2025 - 4.00 p.m.**

Schedule Property: All that part and parcel of the residential house property formed in No-3 (Northern Portion) 7th Main Road, 7th Cross, N H Colony, Old PID No- 7-75-3, New PID No- 036-W0327-11, Ward No- 36, Subedar Palya, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru North Tq, Bengaluru 560022 measuring EW: 33 Feet and NS: 12 Feet, totally measuring 396 Sq.Ft and bounded by: North by : Residential Building, South by : Remaining portion of same municipal No-3 belonging to others, East by : 7th Cross Road, West By : Property of Shamanna.

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For further details Divisional Manager, Canara Bank, Regional Office West, e-mail id roblrwrec@canarabank.com,cb1174@canarabank.com Mob No.7022192698/7411509379/9483521174), OR the service provider BAANKNET **(M/s PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd) Bangalore (Contact No. 8291220220)** E-mail: Support.BAANKNET@psballiance.com may be contacted during office hours on any working day.

Date : 03.01.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of My client **Smt.B.Mangala W/o Sri.K.R.Mahadevaprasad** to bring the notice of the general public that the Original Allotment Letter issued by BDA, Dated.01.10.2002, in the name of said **Smt.B.Mangala** is missing / lost/ misplaced in respect of schedule property. If any, person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the Schedule Property by way of inheritance, sale, agreement, mortgage, lease, lien, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within **Seven (7) days** from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, with all supporting documents failing which reference to such claim and the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated as waived and not binding on our client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of immovable residential property bearing **Site No.493,** measuring **6 meters x 9 meters,** situated at **10th Block, Further Extension of Anjanapura Layout, Bangalore** in the Layout formed by the Bangalore Development Authority, and bounded on the:-

East by : Road,West by : Site No.524, North by : Site No.492, South by : Site No.494

H. Prahlada, Advocate & Solicitor,
For H.P.Law, #2, 3rd Floor, Venkateshwara Complex, Yeshwanthpur, Bangalore-560022
M : 7760061073

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Tender Notice No.: PCMM/GENL/TP/2025/01, Dated : 03.01.2025, TENDER FOR "E" PROCUREMENT SYSTEM, The Principal Chief Materials Manager, South Eastern Railway, Hd. Qrs. Office (5th Floor), New Administrative Building, 11, Garden Reach Road, Kolkata-700043 for and on behalf of the President of India invites open E-tenders which have been uploaded on website **www.ireps.gov.in** as follows. All the tenders will be closed at 14.00 hrs. **Sl. No., Tender No., Due Date, Brief Description, Quantity & EMD** are as follows: **1. 45243181A,** 21.02.2025, Battery Charging Unit with Mild Steel enclosure 200 Amps, 130 V DC etc, 31 Nos., ₹ 1,25,840/-, **2. 47243113A,** 27.03.2025, Microprocessor Controller of Roof Mounted AC Package Unit for LHB Coaches etc. 50 Nos., ₹ 1,17,410/-, **3. IG246834,** 20.01.2025, Rotary screw electrically driven microprocessor. 03 Nos., ₹ 1,75,780/-. **4. 38243349,** 16.01.2025, Bolster Liner for CASNUB 22 Bogie etc. 104520 Nos., ₹ 2,34,310/-. **5. 75245001,** 21.01.2025, Supply and fitment of High resolution printed Vinyl Wrapping Sticker etc. 73800 Sqft., ₹ 1,78,170/-. **6. AD245634,** 24.01.2025, Conversion Kit of FDS system etc. (as per website), 350 Sets. Conversion Kit of FDS system etc. (as per website), 400 Sets. ₹ 1,11,510/-. **7. 40241633,** 19.02.2025, Welding Cable, Single Core, rubber insulated, 95 Sq. mm stranded aluminium conductor etc. 54,900 Mtr., ₹ 1,34,750/-. **8. HB247254,** 22.01.2025, Procurement of Emergency Medical Box with Items etc. 66 Nos., ₹ 3,48,020/-. **9. 30243496B,** 22.01.2025, Rear Cover for axle box. 3683 Nos., ₹ 1,00,650/- **10. 31245005,** 22.01.2025, High HP Traction Motor Fuji Design. 04 Nos., ₹ 2,41,190/- **11. 33243060A,** 27.01.2025, Flex Ball Cable Complete Set (with End Connection). 82 Set, ₹ 3,89,940/-. **12. 33241493A,** 29.01.2025, Knuckle of Frontier Make AAR "H" Type Tight Lock CBC for Passenger Coaches. 103 Nos., ₹ 1,16,160/- **13. 31245004,** 14.02.2025, Supply and Installation Aerosol Based Fire Detection. 133 Set, ₹ 1,35,660/- **14. 33243124D,** 05.03.2025, Foot Step Complete. 1800 Nos., ₹ 1,79,610/-. Interested tenderers may visit website **www.ireps.gov.in** for full details/description/specification of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these items will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective Bidders may regularly visit **www.ireps.gov.in** to participate in all other tenders & any Corrigendum published thereafter.

(PR-978) **Principal Chief Materials Manager/Garden Reach**

Govt. of Karnataka

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru

(An Organisation of Government of Karnataka)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Karnataka Marketing Federation Building, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560052.

No: KREIS/EE-1/Tender-21/2024-25 Date: 03.01.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through e-Procurement Only)

The tenders have been invited for **Repair works in Bengaluru, Mysuru, Belagavi and Kalburgi Revenue Divisions and Kolar, Chamarajanagar and Mysuru Districts of KREIS, respectively (Tender Indent No. 501, 502, 509, 510, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499)** through e-Portal vide website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on **03.01.2025.** The last date for receipt of tenders is **03.02.2025.** The details may be viewed at above website.

Note: Any changes in term tender notification will not be published in dailies. It will be published in e-Procurement portal only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-1
KREIS

DIPR/CP/YC/4094/2024-25

IndusInd Bank

IndusInd Bank, No.25, Steeple Reach, A Block, 3Rd Floor, Cathedral Road, Gopalapuram, Chennai - 600086
Email: SBindu.Moul@indusind.com

APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (SARFAESI Act).

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-borrowers and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken on 21/06/2023 by the Authorised Officer of IndusInd Bank Limited. The Secured assets, will be sold on "As and where is basis", "as is what is basis", whatever there is basis" and "No recourse Basis" on 21/01/2025, for recovery of Rs. 7,26,58,592.55p (Rupees Seven Crore Twenty SixLakhs Fifty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two and paisaFifty Five Only)as on 23/12/2024together with further interest, cost & expenses, etc.,due to the Secured Creditor from following Borrower, & Co Borrowersfor the loan account (A/C # KYV00024N &KYV00002N). The reserve price and earnest money to be deposited is mentioned below respectively.

That Bank has fixed the reserve price and the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) mentioned herein below, shall be deposited through IMPS/RTGS/ NEFT only in favour of "Indusind Bank Ltd having Account No.00073564611092, IFSC: INDB0000007, and Branch Address: No. 3, Village Road, Nungambakkam, Chennai-600034.

Before submitting the tender document, the successful bidder(s) shall pay a deposit of 25% of the Sale Price (less 10% of EMD amount paid along with the Bid. The purchaser needs to pay remaining 15% on sale confirmation) on the date of e-Auction or not later than the next working day. The balance amount of 75% of the Sale Price is required to be deposited within 15 days from the date of Sale Confirmation Letter as contemplated under as per SARFAESI Act.

Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower's/Guarantor's/Mortgagor's Address

1. Mr. Darpan Nandi, (Borrower) Son of Mr. Mahesh Chandrasekarappa Basappa,
2. Mr. Darshan Nandi, (Co-Borrower) Son of Mr. Mahesh Chandrasekarappa Basappa,
3. Mr. Mahesh B. C., (Co-Borrower) Son of Mr. Chandrasekarappa Basappa,
All R/at, New No. 44/1, Old No. 580, Ganesh Krupa, Vani Vilas Road, Lakshmipuram, Chamraj Mohalla, Mysore 570 004, Karnataka

Loan Account Numbers	KYV00002N & KYV00024N
Reserve Price	Rs.9,17,00,000/- (Rupees Nine Crores Seventeen Lakhs Only)
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.91,70,000/- (Rupees Ninety One LakhSeventy Thousand Only)
Date & Time of E-auction	21/01/2025 between11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Last date of submission of bids along with EMD	20/01/2025 till 4:00 PM
Minimum bid Increment amount	Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
Date & Time of Inspection of property	With pre appointment
E auction Website Address	https://www.bankeauctions.com
Contact	Mrs. Bindu Moul

EDITORIAL

You were first created out of love, so carry nothing but love to those who are trembling

Hiba Abu Nada

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

CAR SALES REFLECT NEED FOR DEMAND BOOSTERS IN BUDGET

CAR sales, a key indicator of overall economic demand, presented a mixed bag during calendar year 2024. Total retail sales grew 9 percent to touch a record 26.1 million units, surpassing the pre-pandemic peak of 25.4 million units in 2018. So, the industry made a full recovery from the lockdown slump. What's unsettling is the performance of some sub-segments. Growth in passenger vehicle sales fell to a four-year low as car makers struggled to sustain the post-pandemic growth momentum. Preliminary data shows passenger vehicle sales grew at 4.5-4.7 percent—the slowest rate in at least four years—to slightly over 4.3 million units. One could argue that the slowness was partly due to a relatively high base the year earlier. But what's undeniable is that demand for cars priced under ₹10 lakh is moderating, reflecting sluggish consumption among a section of urban buyers.

Car sales fell during April-September, but recovered in the October-December quarter, thanks to festive spending. It's unclear whether the industry can sustain the momentum in the fourth quarter. While the overall passenger vehicle growth slowed, sales of SUVs boomed. Two-wheeler sales also fared well, driven by a favourable monsoon and improved consumer sentiment—registering 16.23 percent growth between January and November 2024 over the same period of 2023, according to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers. On the other hand, demand for commercial vehicles remained below potential despite higher government spending on infrastructure. Clearly, stagnant wages and high inflation are discouraging discretionary spending among middle-income households.

According to estimates based on the Periodic Labour Force Survey, workers' earnings have declined in real terms over the last decade. This is why India's consumption story is not looking rosy. Critics insist the government should focus on the demand side, rather than delivering supply-side measures. The Confederation of Indian Industry even suggested the novel idea of handing out consumption vouchers to low-income households to stimulate demand for specific goods and services over a designated timeframe. Above all, the government must consider raising MGNREGA wages and enhancing cash support to farmers under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi and other similarly-targeted schemes in the forthcoming budget. Without these, higher private consumption and faster growth will elude us.

CRUCIAL INTERVENTION FOR CRITICAL MINERALS

AFTER making a string of well-thought policy moves to increase the mining and processing of critical minerals over the last few years, the government recently found it needs to do more. It took off the auction table 11 of the 21 critical minerals blocks it had put up in the fourth round of bidding. The lukewarm response was not for want of trying. Over the last few years, the government has made space to attract private interest in minerals deemed critical for national security. There was genuine excitement in early 2023 over the discovery of substantial lithium deposits in Jammu's Reasi district. In mid-2023, the government set the ground by selecting 30 minerals of strategic importance. A few months later, parliament allowed private companies to mine some of these minerals for the first time. Then came the auctions in 2024.

The concern over these minerals is existential. China's overwhelming dominance in the domain worries India—especially on bismuth, lithium, silicon and titanium, for which more than half of India's demand is met by our neighbour, which recently showed it's willing to turn the supply tap for geopolitical reasons. The International Energy Agency estimated that demand for these minerals would double by 2030 and quadruple by 2040 to meet the Paris climate agreement's goals. Last year's fall in the price of lithium, cobalt, nickel and graphite was caused by new investment in supplies. The demand-supply equilibrium will soon be wobbling in search of new price points.

Information is crucial in a mining auction. Companies are unlikely to bid if they don't know how much of what lies where. Though the Geological Survey has undertaken many more exploration projects this financial year and the National Mineral Exploration Trust has funded dozens of private projects, none has crossed the first three stages of UN's resource classification framework—reconnaissance, prospecting and general exploration—to get to the final stage of 'detailed exploration'. Given the tepid response to its efforts, the government might want to consider funding exploration of critical minerals upfront rather than reimbursing it when mining starts. After all, it's about an era-defining clash between the immoveable object of finite resources and the unstoppable force of their rising demand.

QUICK TAKE

DEAD MAN WALKING

ALEJANDRO Iñárritu's memorable film *Amores Perros* unfolds as a triptych from a road accident. In a similar vein, the news of a 'dead' man coming alive when his ambulance hit a bump should raise fingers in three directions. First, the eye-popping details: Pandurang Ulpe, 65, of Kolhapur district had been declared dead at a private hospital after a heart attack; but when the ambulance carrying his body back home hit a speedbreaker, he stirred back to life. At fault are the doctors, the hospital administration that declared him dead and the ambulance driver. Ulpe returned home this Monday after an angioplasty at another hospital. But those behind the negligence should be headed to the police station.

A good way to begin reconciliation in the strife-torn state would be to let the displaced return home to reclaim their properties and bring up their children in peace

MANIPUR'S REDEMPTION SONG FOR 2025

PRADIP PHANJOUBAM
Editor, *Imphal Review of Arts and Politics*

IT'S a new year already. Even though there cannot possibly be any particular beginning or end point in a circle, there is nothing unreal about the euphoric mood of anticipating changes for the better associated with this supposed transition of an old year to a new one on January 1—an arbitrary date along the path of Earth's cyclic revolution around the Sun.

The consensus could have been on any other point along this path. Indeed, most traditional societies, including many in India, celebrate the start of Spring as the new year; perhaps more sensibly too, for it is more in rhythm with the life cycle of the plant world.

But even seasons are dependent on latitudinal and hemispheric positions of different geographies, and there cannot be a single new year date even by this principle. There is therefore nothing wrong or right about deciding January 1 as the beginning of a new year. What is beyond doubt is the overwhelming and universal sense of renewal this date brings.

This is another example of the power of fiction that humans became capable of creating, believing, and bonding themselves along on a large scale. Yuval Noah Harari explains this in *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*. This capability is thanks to what is described as a cognitive revolution sapiens went through on account of a minor mutation in their brain wiring some 60,000 years ago. Other than fiction, this also gave them the ability to create and understand symbols, leading to complex languages far superior to sign language that was once theirs, and the rest of the animal world's primary means of communication.

They also learnt to conceptualise space and time as well as abstract notions such as heaven, hell and divinity. No other in the animal kingdom can comprehend these (perhaps for the better). Quite understandably, the world that humans imagine and understand today, and all issues related to this understanding, is extremely human-centric.

Ultimately, what's good for humans is good and what's bad for humans is bad. Hence, to cause distress to even one human is bad, but to exterminate millions of germs harmful to humans is good. This value calibration extends even in the assessment of climate change.

So here we are at the start of a new year, anticipating changes for the better and for resolutions to burdensome problems from the year that has just ended. This is a time most would justifiably be lost in the tidal wave of new year optimism. For a troubled state like Manipur, caught in a bloody feud between two of its major communities, Meiteis and Kuki-Zos, this sense of goodwill that new year brings can be the initiation point for healing with a little effort.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

This horrifying and tragic blood-letting between the two communities is now close to completing two years and there are no signs of the hostilities drawing to a close anytime soon. If cases of violence are fewer, it is only on account of combat fatigue and not because an amicable understanding has been reached between the warring groups. This absence of violence, however, must not be treated as a return of peace as politicians are wont to. For then, as in any 'frozen conflict', the enmity will remain simmering quietly within to give way to periodic hostile flashpoints in the future.

In the two years that have gone by, over 250 people have been killed and 60,000 displaced, a majority of whom are still living deplorable lives in relief camps. Nothing much can be done for the dead, except for institutional compensations and for everybody else to wish their families strength to face and overcome their immense grief.

Beyond this, however, a good way for reconciliation to begin would be for the displaced to get to return to their abandoned homes to reclaim their properties, rebuild their lives and bring up their children as they would have if this tragedy had not struck.

Such a change can begin with a serious introspection on the importance, yet ultimate insignificance, of all that life is when viewed from the cosmological perspective in which the earth is just 'a pale blue dot', as Carl Sagan poetically and poignantly put it. This reminder is, however, not a call for despair, but for an awakening of the inner strength that comes with humility.

In Bill Bryson's analogy of this thought in his bestselling *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, if the span of the outstretched arms of a person of average height is to represent the years since life came to be on earth, then a single stroke of a mid-grain nail file on a finger nail would be enough to wipe off the portion human history came to be.

This humility is also the source of what John Paul Lederach calls 'the moral imagination', in his book by the same title. Just as hatred generates hatred, goodwill and generosity are also known for reciprocating in kind. This is not just in the nature of barter trading but more about causing the regeneration of a moral ecosystem where all can together relish the joy of peace, harmony and normalcy.

This is also why, very often, a simple but loving hug or sincere apology can bond people, even former adversaries, more securely than the best conceived treaties.

If in Manipur tomorrow, one side or the other in this bitter communal divide finds the courage and generosity to invite and assure the safe return of people displaced from their side, it is imaginable that a conclusion to the conflict will become a reality sooner than later. This conflict would have also already made it clear to all stakeholders that other than the desired sense of fraternity, there were always other shared destinies binding them together, and that challenging these can only lead to common distress. Geographies that are integral in nature are the foremost of these destinies.

Let the wish for this new year, especially for those in traumatised Manipur, be for the insight to discover the strength in humility, and for the courage to exercise the moral imagination to see the commonness of the predicament of all who have suffered, and in this realisation find common redemption.

(Views are personal)
(phanjoubam@gmail.com)

GAZANS' TRAUMA WILL ENDURE, BUT VIOLENCE MUST STOP NOW

FARHAT MANTOO
Executive Director, Médecins Sans Frontières, South Asia

THIS is no longer a conflict. For over 14 months, the people of Gaza have endured unimaginable suffering, ensnared in what can only be described as a death trap. The latest report from Médecins Sans Frontieres or Doctors Without Borders reveals a heart-wrenching reality: the people of Gaza are fighting for survival amid constant bombardment, an oppressive blockade and the deliberate withholding of life-saving aid.

I have seen my fair share of humanitarian crises. But what is unfolding in Gaza is beyond anything I have encountered in my career—a systematic dismantling of an entire society.

In the span of just one year, from October 2023 to October 2024, MSF staff has faced 41 attacks and violent incidents. These weren't mere close calls—they included airstrikes, shelling and violent intrusions into health facilities. In fact, our medical personnel and patients were forced to evacuate hospitals and health facilities 17 times, often in desperate attempts to save their own lives. This grim reality exposes the perilous conditions faced by humanitarian workers in Gaza, where even those dedicated to saving lives find themselves constantly at risk.

My colleague Christopher Lockyear, MSF's secretary general, recently shared insights from his visit to Gaza: "The recent military offensive in the north is a stark illustration of the brutal war being waged, with clear signs of ethnic cleansing as Palestinians are forcibly displaced, trapped and bombed."

While MSF does not have the legal authority to establish intentionality, what our medical teams have witnessed is consistent with descriptions provided by an increasing number of legal experts and organisations concluding that genocide is taking place in Gaza. The ongoing devastation—including mass killings, severe physical and mental health injuries, forced displacement, and impossible conditions of life for Palestinians under siege and bombardment—is undeniable.

This is not just a humanitarian crisis; it is a testament to humanity's failure to uphold the most basic tenets of compassion and justice.

In response to the horrific attacks carried out by Hamas and other armed groups in Israel on October 7, 2023—in which 1,200 people were killed and 251 were taken hostage—Israeli forces have crushed the entire population of Gaza.

The numbers are heart-shattering. More than 45,000 Palestinians have been killed, including eight MSF colleagues; approximately 1.9 million people—90 percent of Gaza's population—have been forcibly displaced. These aren't mere statistics—they represent an entire population, trapped in an enclave and then crushed under bombs and rubble. MSF is seeing clear signs of ethnic cleansing in Northern Gaza: Palestinians are being pushed out of the area and life is impossible for civilians who are still trapped there.

AP

> As a medical organisation, Doctors Without Borders does not take sides. But with eight members killed in Gaza and others witness to mass killings, severe physical and mental injuries, forced displacement and impossible living conditions, it's imploring governments to stop the genocide

As a medical and humanitarian organisation, MSF does not take political sides. However, neutrality does not mean silence. As the testimonies of our teams accumulated over months—witnessing atrocities, mass killings and the destruction of civilian infrastructure—we are compelled to speak out about the dire situation.

Essential aid flow into Gaza plummeted to just 37 trucks carrying humanitarian supplies daily in October 2024, down from 500 before October 2023, creating an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. Fewer than half of the enclave's 36 hospitals are even partially functional at the moment and the healthcare system lies in ruin.

What we are seeing is not just the collateral damage of war, but a deliberate strategy to make life unliveable in Gaza. The Israeli military has repeatedly prevented essential items such as food, water and medical supplies from entering the Strip. The siege and blockade have created conditions where survival is impossible.

But perhaps the most devastating damage is invisible: the collective trauma etched into the psyche of every Gazan, including those tasked with healing others.

Palestinians' physical and mental health injuries are overwhelming. MSF-supported facilities have carried out at least 27,500 consultations for violence-related injuries and 7,500 surgical interventions.

Behind the statistics lies immeasurable human suffering. Families have been torn apart, homes reduced to rubble and entire communities erased. The constant fear, the loss of loved ones, and the destruction of schools and safe spaces have robbed an entire generation of their childhood and future prospects. Even if the bombardment stopped today, the scars left behind—physical, mental and emotional—will take generations to heal.

The situation demands urgent and decisive action from states around the globe to end their support for Israel and fulfil their obligation to prevent genocide in Gaza. We implore the government of India to use all its power to influence a sustainable ceasefire.

On January 26, 2024, the International Court of Justice ordered Israel to take "immediate and effective measures to enable the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance to address the adverse conditions of life faced by Palestinians in the Gaza Strip". Israel has taken no meaningful action to comply with the order. Instead, Israeli authorities continue to actively block MSF and other humanitarian organisations from providing lifesaving assistance to people besieged and bombarded.

(Views are personal)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Wayanad rehab

Ref: *Wayanad survivors' rehab must be fair* (Jan 3). The rehabilitation process shouldn't be like the aftershock. The proactive steps undertaken by the state government is welcome and must be carried to their logical end. The trauma inflicted by the landslide should be sympathetically dealt with.
Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur

Shrinking workforce

Ref: *Fertility decline: A success story or cause for concern?* (Jan 3). As the total fertility rate declines, the smaller effective labour force might shrink the gross income of the state and country—unless productivity sharply increases. The large educated youth population might fail to power the Indian economy.
Nabnit Panigrahi, Rayagada

Small families

The main reason why India's fertility rates fell rapidly despite modest socioeconomic progress is due to aggressive family welfare programmes that promoted small families through targets, incentives and disincentives. Rising inflation, high living costs and economic uncertainty make parenthood financially challenging. India still has a window of opportunity to take action before its demographic situation becomes precarious.
Aditya Kamble, Kalaburagi

Insurance delays

Ref: *1/3rd of insurance claims filed in '24 still unpaid* (Jan 3). The delay in settlement of insurance claims is a great cause of concern. This leads to loss of faith. Authorities should look into the matter without further delay and compensation should be made available to all the eligible parties.
V Rajesh Mohan Rao, Thalassery

Rohit retirement

Ref: *Rested?* (Jan 3) The sad spectacle of a captain of a touring side sitting out of a test match is a rare one. Rohit Sharma's travails with the bat have been prolonged and a string of poor scores in the current and previous series have led to embarrassment. Speculation is rife that Rohit, a veteran of 67 Tests, will call it a day and depart from the longest format not with a bang, but with a whimper.
C V Aravind, Bengaluru

Gambhir's call

There is an adage that 'a captain is only as good as his team'. That applies to the present situation that the Indian team finds itself in. The poor form of Rohit Sharma has rubbed off on the team and it took a bold decision from head coach Gautam Gambhir to drop the captain. This is in the best interests of Indian cricket.
C M Umanath, Kozhikode

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Shivraj Singh Chouhan @ChouhanShivraj
This new year is dedicated to the welfare of farmers. Many schemes for farmers' welfare are being run under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Supriya Sule @supriya_sule
The law and order situation in Maharashtra is critical. In the last 48 hours, 11 murders have been committed across the state... the goons have no fear of the law.

Mahua Moitra @MahuaMoitra
PM Modi gifted Jill Biden a $20,000 diamond ring in 2023. And the only reason Indian taxpayers know this now is because the White House declared it.

Fate of Nimisha Priya hangs in balance

Uncertainty over Kerala nurse as efforts to contact family of Yemeni national to offer blood money yet to succeed

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

THE fate of Nimisha Priya, a nurse from Kerala who is on death row in Yemen, remains uncertain as efforts to contact the family of the Yemeni national she is accused of murdering, in order to offer blood money, have not yet been successful.

With Yemen's President Rashad al-Alimi approving the death sentence for the 37-year-old, the only hope for her family lies in securing a pardon from the family of Talal Abdo Mehdi, the Yemeni citizen she was convicted of murdering.

"We have been reaching out to various tribal leaders and other significant local people to get through to the family. So far, we have sent them about 40,000 USD in two installments through a lawyer there. However, we are unable to communicate with the family," Subhash Chandran, Nimisha's lawyer told this newspaper.

The lack of a full-fledged Indian diplomatic mission or active diaspora organisations in the strife-torn Yemen has made it challenging to intensify efforts for Nimisha's release, the lawyer said.

Priya, who hails from Kollengode in Kerala's Palakkad district, has been imprisoned in Sanaa, the capital of Yemen, since 2017 on charges of murdering a Yemeni national.

In a weekly press briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, said New Delhi is extending all possible help. "We are closely following the developments around the sentencing of Nimisha Priya. The government is extending all possible help in the matter," he said.

Meanwhile, Iran has offered to help the Kerala nurse "on humanitarian grounds". That would help the matter because of Iran's relationship with Houthis, the group that controls most part of Yemen.

Priya's mother, Prema Kumari, who is currently in Sanaa, has appealed to the Indian government to save her daughter's life.

In a video message from Yemen, Prema Kumari urged the Centre and other authorities to intervene urgently.

Notably, Priya moved to Yemen in 2008 for work with her husband and daughter, both of whom returned to India in 2014 due to a financial crisis. In 2015, she started a clinic there with help of Talal Abdo Mahdi, her husband's friend, as a Yemen citizen's assistance is mandatory to operate a business there.

In 2017, Nimisha Priya allegedly injected Talal Abdo Mahdi with a sedative to get her passport, which he had taken from her, in addition to allegedly subjecting her to physical torture and extortion.

After being injected, Mahdi collapsed and died. Nimisha Priya then disposed of his body in a water tank with the assistance of a colleague. She was arrested in August 2017, and in 2020, a trial court in Sanaa sentenced her to death.

Nimisha Priya's walk to the death row

Nimisha Priya moved to Yemen in 2008 for work with her husband and daughter, both of whom returned to India in 2014 due to a financial crisis. In 2015, she started a clinic there with the help of Talal Abdo Mahdi, her husband's friend. However, conflicts arose between them and in 2017, Nimisha Priya allegedly injected Mahdi with a sedative, resulting in his death.

India, Maldives firm up trade on local currencies

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

INDIA and Maldives have finalised a framework to promote the use of local currencies for cross border trade as External Affairs minister S Jaishankar held discussions with his counterpart from the island nation Abdulla Khaleel to improve bilateral relationships.

"The framework to promote the use of local currencies for cross border transaction has been signed. We have increased our engagement in various sectors and I do want to say that India has always stood by the Maldives. You are a very concrete expression of our 'neighbourhood first' policy," Jaishankar said after the meeting.

Khaleel's visit follows the recent state visit of the Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu, to India in October 2024.

Jaishankar and Foreign minister Khaleel took stock of progress made on the understandings reached during Muizzu's visit to India. Jaishankar "reaffirmed the importance India attaches to its bilateral ties with Maldives and assured continued support to Maldives, under India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and Vision SAGAR – Security and Growth for All in the Region."

Khaleel, on his part, appreciated "the timely emergency financial assistance extended by India to Maldives in times of need," reflecting India's role as the "first responder" to Maldives' crisis.

"Foreign minister Dr Khaleel reaffirmed President Muizzu's firm commitment to work closely with India in realising the Joint Vision for India-Maldives Comprehensive Economic and Maritime Security Partnership," a MEA statement said.

India, Iran discuss bi-lateral ties

The foreign offices of India and Iran on Friday discussed ways to improve their economic relationship, progress in Chabahar port development, and energy cooperation. "Confident that the Foreign Office Consultations will give a momentum to our partnership," MEA Jaishankar said after meeting Iran's deputy Foreign minister Majid Takht Ravanch.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

'Mobility of skilled professionals key to India-US ties'

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

IN the wake of growing debate in the US over immigration centering around the special category visa, H-1B, for skilled workers, India stressed on the role these professionals play in fostering the economic and technological partnership between the two countries.

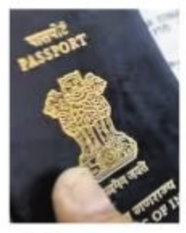
"Both countries have a strong and expanding economic and technological partnership, and within this framework, the mobility of skilled professionals is a crucial component," External Affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

"India-US economic ties benefit greatly from the technical expertise provided by skilled professionals, with both sides leveraging their strengths and competitive advantages. We look forward to further deepening these ties for our mutual benefit," he added.

Jaiswal's remarks come at a time when the H-1B visa program, which permits US companies to employ foreign workers in specialty occupations short-term, is under increasing scrutiny.

"Both countries have a strong and expanding economic and technological partnership, and within this framework, the mobility of skilled professionals is a crucial component," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal.

The debate over the H-1B visa program intensified during the lead-up to Donald Trump's inauguration, particularly among the staunch supporters of the MAGA (Make America Great Again) movement, who called for a halt to skilled worker immigration.



Both countries have a strong and expanding economic and technological partnership, and the mobility of professionals is a crucial component

MEA spokesperson

Present scenario

The debate over the H-1B visa program intensified during the lead-up to Donald Trump's inauguration, particularly among his staunch supporters.

Govt transparency move on production, import of GM crops triggers row

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE government has issued a draft notification to bring greater transparency to the decision-making process regarding production and import of genetically modified (GM) crops. However, petitioners and environmental activists said the move is superficial, and inconsistent with a Supreme Court directive.

The notification came in the backdrop of last year's Supreme Court order following two decades of hearing a batch of petitions against GM crops. It categorically asked the central government to get into broader and more transparent consultations to evolve a national policy on GM crops.

The draft notification proposed amendments to rules to ensure greater transparency in the decision-making process of the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC), which is responsible for approving and regulating GM organisms, crops, and products.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change proposed an amendment in the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Micro-Organisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells Rules, 1989.

The notification issued on December 31 says members of the GEAC will now be required to disclose any personal or professional interests that may affect their judgment.

To implement these measures, experts will need to submit written declarations outlining any "conflict of interest" when they join the committee.

They must also update these declarations whenever new circumstances arise. If there is uncertainty about whether a conflict exists, the committee chairman will make the final decision, the notification said.

"It appears that the Government of India is doing some perfunctory things, without reading the Supreme Court's judgement carefully," said Kavitha Kuruganti, a farmers' rights activist and an expert on GM crops.

'Medical seats cannot remain vacant': SC directs govt to fix it

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court on Friday said that seats in medical courses cannot remain vacant and asked the Centre to hold a meeting with all the stakeholders, including the states, and consider the recommendations of a committee appointed overthe issue. A bench of Justice BR Gavai and Justice KV Viswanathan was hearing the matter when it observed, "Seats also cannot go vacant."

In April, 2023, the apex court flagged the issue of super speciality seats in medical courses remaining unfilled. The Centre had then proposed to appoint a committee, consisting of all the stakeholders including representatives of states and private medical colleges, under the chairmanship of director general of health services to resolve the issue.

On Friday, the Centre said the committee comprising the stakeholders was constituted and it had given its recommendations on the issue. "It would be appropriate if the Centre held a meeting with the stakeholders and came out with a concrete proposal," its counsel said.

The bench therefore directed for the meeting to be held by the Centre. The apex court said the needful be done within three months and posted the matter in April.

ALSO IN TOP COURT

Ram Rahim's reply sought on CBI plea

In a significant development, the Supreme Court on Friday agreed to examine the CBI's appeal against the acquittal of Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh and four others in the 2002 murder of Ranjit Singh, a former manager of the sect. The Punjab and Haryana High Court on May 28, 2024, acquitted Singh and others in the case, observing the probe was "tainted and sketchy". Media trials must not make objective evaluations of the evidence on record, the high court held further.

'Will take steps to ban caste discrimination'

The Supreme Court on Friday said it will devise an effective mechanism to combat caste-based discrimination in educational institutions. A bench of justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan directed the UGC to notify draft rules to ensure no caste-based discrimination happened in the central, state, private and deemed universities. It directed UGC to furnish data on the number of institutions which had established equal opportunity cells in compliance with UGC equity regulations.

In April 2023, the top court said the plea before it depicted a "very sorry picture" given that 1,003 precious super speciality seats were going to waste as no admissions could take place for the seats. "On the one hand, we find that there is always a shortage of super speciality doctors and on the other hand these precious seats remain unfilled," it said.

As the vacant seats issue has not been resolved yet, the top court want the Union government to talk with various stakeholders to resolve the issue. The Centre said the committee comprising the stakeholders was constituted and it had given its recommendations and is in the process to sort out the vacant seats issue.

There are currently 695 medical colleges in India, offering a total of 1,06,333 seats for medical courses. Out of these, 55,648 seats are in government colleges, and 50,685 seats in private institutions. In 2024, the government added 5,150 more seats for MBBS courses.

'CBI doesn't need state consent to register FIR against Centre's officials'

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY @ New Delhi

THE Supreme Court has said the CBI does not require the permission of state governments to register an FIR against Centre's officials posted in the different states' jurisdictions.

A bench comprising Justice CT Ravikumar and Justice Rajesh Bindal on Thursday overturned the Andhra Pradesh High Court's order quashing the CBI investigations against two central government employees over corruption.

"Therefore, the question is in such circumstances merely because such an employee works within the territory of a particular State, to register an FIR by the CBI in connection with commission of an offence under a Central Act whether consent from the state government concerned is required or not," the bench said.

"Irrespective of the place of posting, the aforesaid factual position would go onto show that they were Central government employees/Central government undertaking employees and allegedly committed serious offence under Prevention of Corruption (PC) Act, which is a central act," the bench held.

In this particular case, two FIRs were registered by the CBI against two central government employees – A Sathish Kumar and another – working in Andhra Pradesh under the PC Act. After registration of FIRs by the CBI, the two accused persons then moved the Andhra Pradesh HC claiming that the general consent given for the CBI under the Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946, (DSPE) by the undivided state of Andhra Pradesh cannot apply to the state after its bifurcation. They also submitted to the apex court that a fresh consent was needed from the newly formed state of AP.

After heaing their plea, the HC quashed the proceedings, while granting relief to them. The CBI then filed an appeal before the top court. Justice Ravikumar ruled the HC had erred in asking for a fresh consent.

'Andaman, Lakshadweep development a priority'

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday asserted that development of infrastructure and increasing tourism in the Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Islands and Lakshadweep has been a priority of the central government led by Prime Minister Modi.

Shah made these remarks while chairing a meeting of the Islands Development Agency (IDA) and further noted that the Centre's aim is to build better infrastructure while preserving the culture and heritage of these islands.

During the meeting, Shah reviewed the progress of the ongoing developmental and infrastructure initiatives in A&N and Lakshadweep, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in an official release. "Development of infrastructure and increasing tourism facilities in the region is the priority of the government," the release said quoting Amit Shah.

Shah emphasised the need for a holistic approach to infrastructure projects in these island and called on all concerned

ministries to collaborate on initiatives related to tourism, trade and other key sectors.

He also issued clear directives to address pending issues and expedite the completion of ongoing projects. Shah also underscored the importance of advancing solar and wind energy initiatives in the two UTs and stressed upon achieving the goal of 100% renewable energy generation through solar panels and windmills, the MHA release noted.

Shah directed the Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to implement the 'PM Surya Ghar' scheme by installing solar panels in all households across both islands.

'One Island, One Resort' policy to boost tourism

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

THE Centre is expected to come up with a policy for holistic development of identified, unexplored islands for promotion of sustainable ecotourism soon. According to tourism ministry officials, the Government is working on the 'One Island, One Resort' concept for Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) islands, Lakshadweep, and Daman and Diu, where it had proposed to create a single resort on an islet.

"With collaboration of private entities, an ecosystem will be developed to open uninhabited islands to tourists and simultaneously for preserving its natural ecosystem and rich bio-diversity. The work is going on. On a small island, only one resort will be developed similar to existing arrangements in Maldives," said officials privy to the development.

Sustainable development

A feasibility study to tap the potential for tourism growth of selected islands and 'high-quality sustainable development' was conducted by Niti Aayog long ago. In the last budget, the Centre announced planned development of iconic tourist centres especially islands to boost tourism in collaboration with states.

The Centre has proposed to develop a model for the holistic development of a few identified islands. Officials said that besides eco-cottages, water villas and beach villages on a couple of islands were planned.

An hospitality management institute, one each for A&N islands and Lakshadweep was also recommended for training islanders so that they could secure satisfactory jobs in tourism-based and other development projects, added officials.

New NCC units raised in Kupwara and Kargil; 20 lakh cadet strength

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

FOUR new National Cadet Corps (NCC) units have been raised in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh said on Friday. "While Kupwara and Kargil have one NCC Army unit each, Udhampur has got both Air Force and Army units," said Lt Gen Singh, Director General of NCC.

The air wing, apart from drill and routine training, involves flying experience on gliders and microlites, which, sources said, might see the training of drones and remotely piloted air vehicles. A proposal is in the pipeline for inclusion of drone training in the curriculum. The approvals for these units were given in January 2024.

The NCC is the world's biggest uniformed youth organisation. "The sanctioned strength of NCC cadets has increased from 17 lakh to 20 lakh with 40% being girls," the DG said.

"NCC helps develop a sense of patriotism and leadership among youth with the help of various activities including military training and various socio-cultural programmes," he added.

With the process to induct additional sanctioned strength, "the ex-servicemen are being inducted and trained as it will be a win-win situation both for the veterans and the NCC," said an NCC official.

The NCC Republic Day camp 2025 will be attended by 2,361 cadets, including 917 girls, the largest number till date. "135 cadets from 18 friendly countries will participate in the camp under the Youth Exchange Programme," Lt Gen Singh said.

The month-long camp will see the participation of cadets from across the country, including 114 from Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, and 178 from the north-east, he said. A marching contingent of NCC will participate in the Republic Day parade at Kartavya Path.

LAND SEIZURE

The National Investigation Agency attached a property in Anantnag district under the UAPA in a terror-related case, officials said. The NIA attached a 19-marla land parcel in Halpora area of Kokernag in the south Kashmir district.

4 DEAD AS TOWING VAN HITS SUV IN MAHA'S RAIGAD

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	27	16	Mumbai	32	23
Bhopal	24	11	Panaji	32	21
Jaipur	23	13	Patna	23	12
Amritsar	18	11	Lucknow	21	12
Chennai	28	24	Port Blair	29	26
Kolkata	26	16	Imphal	22	09
Srinagar	10	01	Chandigarh	22	11

Immolation bids amid stir over waste disposal

Protests in Pithampur over Union Carbide, MP CM calls for caution

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

MAJOR protests erupted on Friday in the Madhya Pradesh town of Pithampur, a day after the government transported the toxic waste from Bhopal's defunct Union Carbide factory to the treatment-storage-disposal facility (TSDF) in the town for incineration.

Backed by local leaders of leading political parties, the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress, the protest turned fiery when two protestors, identified as Raj Patel and Rajkumar Raghuvanshi, sustained burn injuries after attempting self-immolation by pouring petrol on themselves.

Videos of the incident suggested that one of them set himself afire while the flames engulfed the other, a senior police official told this newspaper. The police are probing if someone other than the two lit the flame.

The duo with 10-15% burns were admitted to the burns unit of the Choithram Hospital in neighbouring Indore. The Dhar district's guardian minister, Kailash Vijayvargiya, met their family members there.

"A group of protestors also tried to move towards the TSDF where the incineration is scheduled. However, police barricades erected in advance stopped them from reaching the waste treatment plant.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav said in Bhopal, "The waste has only been dumped at the treatment plant; no instructions have been issued to start its incineration. Also, in pursuance of the Supreme Court and MP High Court's order, it has been decided to dispose of the waste lying for 40 years scientifically. The disposal process will begin under the supervision of the courts after clearance from multiple committees of experts." He assured the people that "past trial runs have shown that it will not have adverse effects on anyone, so I urge people not to be misled by those creating confusion with false information". He asked the opposition "not to spread false information".

The Dhar district collector Priyank Mishra and police superintendent Manoj Singh made it clear that the planned incineration at the TSDF will be a fully transparent affair, and only after taking the residents into confidence and taking care of all their concerns.

Life term for all 28 convicts in Kasganj killing

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

A special NIA court on Friday awarded life imprisonment to 28 convicts involved in the killing of ABVP activist Chandan Gupta during the Kasganj violence in Uttar Pradesh on January 26, 2018.

Additional District and Sessions Judge Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi also imposed a fine of ₹80,000 on each convict. The court had convicted 28 out of 30 accused on Thursday.

The court acquitted Nasiruddin and Asim Qureshi due to a lack of sufficient evidence against them. Chandan Gupta, also known as Abhishek Gupta, was shot during the Tiranga Yatra organized by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) as part of the Republic Day celebrations in Kasganj.

The judge found all 28 convicted individuals guilty under several sections, including 302 (murder), 307 (attempt to murder), and 147 (rioting).

Among those convicted were Wasim, Naseem, Zahid alias Jagga, Bablu, Akram, Taufiq, Mohsin, Rahat, Salman, Asif, Nishu alias Zeeshan, Khillan, Wasif, Imran, and Shamshad.

The case received significant attention following Chandan Gupta's death, which sparked riots in the region.

My apology was to Manipur victims, not to others: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

MANIPUR Chief Minister **N Biren Singh** on Friday said his recent apology was directed specifically to the victims of the ethnic conflict and not to anybody else. The state Congress had termed his statement an "acknowledgement" of the government's failure.

The chief minister said, "They (Congress) are the creator of the present situation. They do not want the restoration of peace in Manipur."

"My apology was to the victims who lost their loved ones. It was to the displaced people residing in relief camps. I said sorry to them, not to anybody else. Why should I say sorry to the terrorists?" he asked.

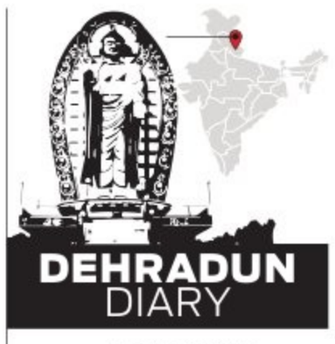
Stating that the conflict is complex which cannot be solved overnight, he said the Centre was doing what the people of Manipur desired. He appeals to them to keep their trust in the government.

On December 31, Singh had stated, "I feel regret and I want to say sorry to the people of the state for what happened since May 3 last year. Many people

lost their loved ones. Many people left their homes. So, I really regret and would like to apologise to all natives."

Pointing out that there has been some progress towards peace in the last three-four months, the CM said he was hopeful about the return of normalcy and peace on the New Year. "Whatever happened has happened. We have to forgive and forget the past mistakes and make a new beginning for a peaceful and prosperous Manipur," he further stated.

Reacting to Singh's statement, Manipur Congress chief Keisham Meghachandra on January 1 stated that the CM admitted to the failure of the double-engine government by apologising to the people.



DEHRADUN DIARY

NARENDRA SETHI
Our correspondent in Uttarakhand
narendrasethi@newindianexpress.com

Themed prog to promote voter participation

State Chief Electoral Officer B.V.R.C. Purushottam has announced that themed programmes will be held each month to encourage voter participation. These themes are designed to engage all segments of society in voter awareness initiatives. Under the leadership of Ravi Bijaraniya, president of the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI), Dehradun Chapter, officials from the chapter met Purushottam on Friday to discuss the outline of a special campaign aimed at increasing voter awareness. "Our objective is to ensure that every citizen understands the importance of their voting rights and utilizes them.

Char Dham Yatra authority to be replaced

The 'Uttarakhand Dharmaswa and Tirthatan Council' will soon replace the proposed Char Dham Yatra authority to ensure successful management of the yatra. This decision came after stakeholders raised objections during a meeting held at the secretariat. Chaired by Additional Chief Secretary Anand Bardhan, the meeting included representatives from various groups such as priests, hotel associations, and pony operators. Stakeholders expressed fears that the establishment of an authority could lead to complications in managing the pilgrimage.

Thukral's move leaves Cong in disarray

Former MLA from Rudrapur, Rajkumar Thukral, who has served two terms, is reportedly considering rejoining the BJP. His announcement to support BJP candidate Vikas Sharma in the upcoming local body elections has put the Congress in a difficult position."This could complicate matters for the grand old party," observers noted. Regarding his potential return to the BJP, Thukral stated, "My meeting with the Chief Minister is my entry into the BJP. The BJP is my 'political mother'. I will follow the directives of the Chief Minister and party officials. We aim to present a victory for Vikas Sharma as a gift to the Chief Minister."

Missing C'garh journo's body found in tank

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

A 33-year-old journalist from the Bijapur district in south Chhattisgarh, who had been missing for the last couple of days, was found dead in a septic tank on Friday evening, police said. Mukesh Chandrakar's body was recovered by the police while tracking down the last location of his mobile phone. Prima-facie, the police suspect he was murdered by some sharp-edged weapons and the body dumped in a tank.

Chandrakar was found missing from his residence on 1 January night. A team under the additional superintendent of police launched search operations in different locations.

"Yukesh Chankdrakar, elder brother of Mukesh, lodged a missing complaint on Wednesday night following which the Bijapur district police constituted a team to trace him. On Friday evening, his body was recovered from a tank on the premises of one contractor Suresh Chandrakar at Chattanpara in Bijapur", the Bastar police spokesperson said.

The body was found barely two kilometres away from his residence. His relatives and friends suspect that he was abducted, murdered and his body dumped in a septic tank.

Shah, Omar agree to disagree on restoration of normalcy in J&K

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

JAMMU and Kashmir Chief Minister **Omar Abdullah** on Friday said normalcy has not been fully restored in J&K. The statement came a day after Home Minister Amit Shah said that Article 370 had sowed seeds of terrorism and Narendra Modi government ended terrorism and terror ecosystem in Valley. "I do not want to say anything on the HM's statement. Normalcy has not been fully restored in J&K yet. It is a process and we will have to see what happens in the coming days," Omar said.

Rejecting rumours that J&K's name was being changed to "Kashyap", Omar said, "There is nothing like that. Some media house ran it but then corrected it. No such proposal exists. And it cannot happen without the consent of the J&K government".

At least 75 militants including 45 Pakistanis were killed in different encounters with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir in 2024. Of the 75 militants killed, 45 were Pakistani nationals belonging to different outfits while the remaining were local militants.

The north Kashmir comprising three districts of Baramulla, Bandipora and Kupwara witnessed 17 encounters in 2024. In these encounters, 28 militants, five security men and two civilians were killed.

In Jammu region, which has witnessed a surge in militant violence in the last few years, 14 militants were killed in different encounters with security forces in 2024. In the Jammu region, militant attacks and encounters took place in 7 out of 10 districts. The militancy violence and encounters took place in Reasi, Kathua, Udhampur, Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch and Rajouri.

A total of 28 security men were killed in militant violence in 2024 and 13 of them were killed in encounters and militant attacks in Jammu region.

Bihar on boil as protests against paper leak hit road & rail traffic

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

PROTESTS intensified in Bihar's capital, Patna, on Friday, a day ahead of the Bihar Public Service Commission holding a re-test of the 70th Integrated Combined Competitive (Preliminary) Examination (CCE), 2024, for select candidates.

Rail and road movement was disrupted as protesters picketed on tracks and roads. They demanded the cancellation of the re-test and for BPSC to hold a fresh exam for all examinees. Selective testing would not provide a level playing field for all aspirants, they argued.

The BPSC completed arrangements for holding the re-test at 22 centres in Patna on Saturday. Patna district magistrate Chandrashekhar Singh said the re-test was for around 12,000 aspirants who had appeared in the examination at the Bapu Examination Hall centre in Patna, where the question leak allegedly happened.

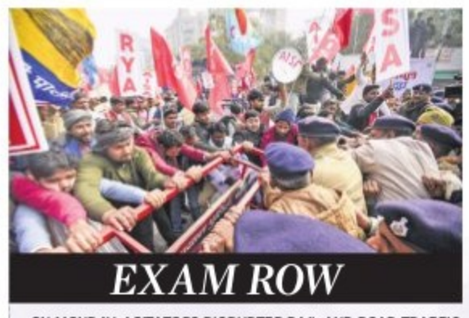
Political parties joined the protests. Jan Suraaj founder Prashant Kishor continued to sit on fast-unto-death, which entered its second day. Independent MP Pappu Yadav led a group of people to stage protests at various places, including Araria, and Muzaffarpur.

Police also stopped a few left-wing students' organisations from marching towards the CM's residence. Sources said that a scuffle ensued between the police and the agitators.

The protesters squatted on the tracks at Sachiwalay Halt railway station, stalling the Buxar-Fatuha passenger train for 20 minutes. In Patna and in Purnea, Yadav's supporters also burnt tyres on roads in the state capital and Purnea.

Meanwhile, Kishor alleged that "thousands of crores of rupees changed hands" to fill vacant posts through BPSC exams. He demanded a high-level probe into the alleged irregularities and corruption in the BPSC preliminary examination and also re-examination.

The other demands included the state government paying unemployment allowance to every unemployed youth between 18 and 35 years, a white paper on paper leaks in competitive examinations and a domicile policy to give at least two-thirds of government jobs to the youth of Bihar.



EXAM ROW

Integrated 70th Combined Competitive Examination (CCE) prelims held on **DEC 13, 2024**

after question paper leak

Bihar Public Service Commission denied the leak, ordered fresh test in Patna on **JAN 4, 2025** at one centre where leak was reported

Aspirants and political parties protest, demand fresh test for all candidates

ON MONDAY, AGITATORS DISRUPTED RAIL AND ROAD TRAFFIC IN SEVERAL AREAS OF PATNA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE STATE

Bihar government assured a dialogue with the protestors but students miffed by late response

Protests have drawn support from various parties, including RJD, Congress, and CPI(M-L)

Examinees claim questions in the test were identical to model papers from coaching institutes; They argue conducting a re-exam at just one centre unfair

Maha tops in FDI, gets 31% of total investment

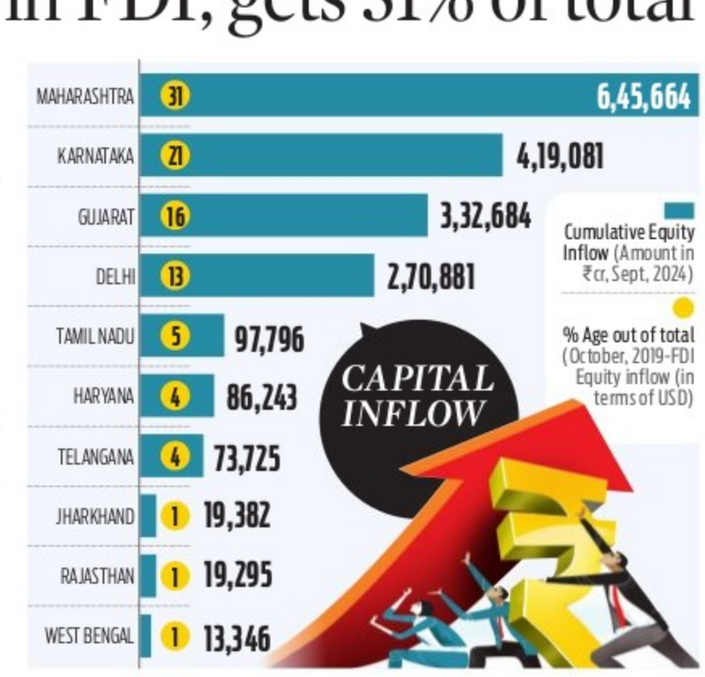
SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

MAHARASHTRA has emerged as the top destination for foreign direct investment (FDI) in India during the first half of the 2024-25 fiscal year, attracting ₹1.13 lakh crore, according to data shared by chief minister Devendra Fadnavis.

The state has bagged 31 per cent of FDI inflow into the country during the period, followed by 21 per cent by Karnataka, 21 per cent by Gujarat, 13 per cent by Delhi and 5 per cent by Tamil Nadu. Total FDI inflows into India during the first half of the fiscal year amounted to ₹4,596,537 crore.

Between October 2019 and September 2024, Maharashtra attracted ₹6,45,664 crore in FDI, representing 31.48 per cent of the national total. Karnataka and Gujarat ranked second and third, with shares of 20.79 per cent and 16.44 per cent.

"In 2022-23, Maharashtra received ₹1.18 lakh crore FDI that increased to ₹1.25 lakh crore in 2023-24. Within six months of 2024-25, it received ₹1.13 lakh crore FDI. It will surpass the previous year's FDI records. This shows that Maharashtra


MAHARASHTRA 31 6,45,664
KARNATAKA 21 4,19,081
GUJARAT 16 3,32,684
DELHI 13 2,70,881
TAMIL NADU 5 97,796
HARYANA 4 86,243
TELANGANA 4 73,725
JHARKHAND 1 19,382
RAJASTHAN 1 19,295
WEST BENGAL 1 13,346
Cumulative Equity Inflow (Amount in ₹cr, Sept, 2024)
% Age out of total (October, 2019-FDI Equity inflow (in terms of USD)
CAPITAL INFLOW

was always favourite destination for FDI. It is on the top and will remain on the top when it comes to FDI," said Fadnavis.

He said the growth of the state will continue under the Maha Yuti government. Earlier, Fadnavis asked all departmental secretaries to prepare 100-day plans for development. In the meeting, he told the secretaries to suggest where their departments are lagging and where they need to focus for growth.

Fadnavis's remarks appear to counter criticism from the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), which accused the ruling coalition of failing to attract investments. During last year's Lok Sabha and assembly elections, the opposition claimed Maharashtra was lagging behind other states due to state government policies.

Sources said Fadnavis asked the secretaries not to clear files involving expenses of more than ₹5 crore. "CM Fadnavis wants to restrain expenditure where it is not required. In coming days, the state finances will be tightened and growth will be given a push," a secretary said.

"Political stability is important and this government has got the huge mandate that will send the right message to investors who are eager to invest in Maharashtra. Fadnavis has a bigger opportunity to showcase his talent and leadership skill to push the growth of Maharashtra once again," officer said.

Despite the positive numbers, opposition leaders remained critical. Maharashtra Congress general secretary Sachin Sawant alleged that the central government's policies favoured Gujarat. "Maharashtra has always led in FDI and never competed with Gujarat," Sawant said.

Once fierce & held captive, now age catches up with Vikram, his release

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

IN a heart-rending development at the Corbett Tiger Reserve, the release of Vikram, a tiger imprisoned for five years following allegations of killing three beat watchers in the Dhikala zone, has been hindered by his age. Now 20 years old and with several teeth lost, Vikram has been waiting for his freedom.

Wildlife experts said, "Vikram may still have several years left to live, his release is not feasible due to his advanced age. He will have to struggle to hunt other wildlife. Moreover, if released into the wild, younger and more dominant tigers can overpower him and pose a threat to his life."

According to sources, Vikram has been the centre of attraction due to his longevity. He was apprehended at the age of 15 after he killed three people. Initially captured and tranquilized, he was held at the Nainital Zoo. However, after exhibiting aggressive behaviour during his six-month stay there,

he was transferred to the Dhikala Rescue Centre.

The Dhela Rescue Centre was completed in 2020, and it was there that this tiger was relocated and named Vikram. Since then, the park administration has been responsible for providing food for him. The rescue centre is home to Vikram and eight other tigers, with Vikram being the oldest among them.

Saket Badola, the director of Corbett Tiger Reserve, emphasized the exceptional care provided to tigers housed at the rescue centre. "The tigers at Dhela Rescue Centre are maintained with the utmost attention. Regular comprehensive health check-ups are conducted," he stated.

Badola specifically mentioned Vikram, one of the centre's resident tigers, noting, "Vikram is in perfect health and has been receiving dedicated care throughout his stay here. He was named Vikram due to his massive size." The tiger resides in a spacious enclosure of 600 square metres, which features a water pool where he often enjoys playing.

"During summers, he receives supplements—nutrient-rich liquids—along with meat pieces. In winter, we also pay close attention to his vitamins and minerals," Badola added.

He added that samples for health testing are sent to the Indian Veterinary Research Institute in Bareilly for analysis.

Wildlife expert Sanjay Chimwal states, "The average lifespan of a tiger in any zoo is typically 18 years. In the wild, however, their lifespan ranges between 12 and 15 years."

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify General Public that my client Mr.Shameer Pasha, S/o Mr. Abdul Wahab, had purchased undermentioned schedule property from its previous owner Mr.Munawar Pasha S/o Mr.Abdul Jaleel, and got the same registered at Document No.INR-1-05480-2024-25, Dtd.26-08-2024, registered before the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar (Indiranagar), Bengaluru. Any person/s having any claim, right, title, interest or having any kind of objection of whatsoever nature against the schedule property, may file their objections to the under mentioned immediately from the date of this Public Notice, else it may be presumed that there are no objections on the said schedule property and the same is with clear titles.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Apartment No.G-01, Front Flat, in the Ground Floor, with Super Built up Area of 1150 Sq.ft., which is a 3 Bed room flat, along with 220sq.ft. undivided share with one covered car parking, at "AL VAKIL APARTMENT", situated at BDA site No.9SP31, New Municipal No.9SP31, PID No.95-481-9SP31, situated at Hennur Bellary Road (HBR layout 2nd stage), Shampur main road, Bengaluru-560032, BBMP Old Ward No.95, New Ward No.32, measuring East to West : 12.19 mts or 40 feet and North to South : 18.29 mts or 60 feet, total measuring 222.95 sq.mts or 2400 Sq.ft.

Sd/- **R.Mohammed Riyazulla,**
Advocate and Legal Consultant,
Off: No.174/40, 20-B, 1st Floor, Lucky Paradise, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bengaluru - 560 011. Ph.no.7406225802,
E-mail: riyazullam@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify General Public that my client Mr.Faisal Mohideen Siddique S/o Mr.Quayum S.A, had purchased undermentioned schedule property from its previous owner Mr.Munawar Pasha S/o Mr.Abdul Jaleel, and got the same registered at Document No.INR-1-06310-2024-25, Dtd.17-09-2024, registered before the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar (Indiranagar), Bengaluru. Any person's having any claim, right, title, interest or having any kind of objection of whatsoever nature against the schedule property, may file their objections to the under mentioned immediately from the date of this Public Notice, else it may he presumed that there are no objections on the said schedule property and the same is with clear titles.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Residential Apartment No.G-02, Rear Flat, in the Ground Floor, with Super Built up Area of 1150 Sq.ft., which is a 3 Bed room flat, along with 220sq.ft. undivided share with one covered car parking, at "AL VAKIL APARTMENT", situated at BDA site No.9SP31, New Municipal No.9SP31, PID No.95-481-9SP31, situated at Hennur Bellary Road (HBR layout 2nd stage), Shampur main road, Bengaluru-560032, BBMP Old Ward No.95, New Ward No.32, measuring East to West : 12.19 mts or 40 feet and North to South : 18.29 mts or 60 feet, total measuring 222.95 sq.mts or 2400 Sq.ft.

Sd/- **R.Mohammed Riyazulla,**
Advocate and Legal Consultant,
Off: No.174/40, 20-B, 1st Floor, Lucky Paradise, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bengaluru - 560 011. Ph.no.7406225802,
E-mail: riyazullam@gmail.com

IN THE COURT OF II ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, AT BENGALURU.

LAC No.15/2019.
CCH-17.
Hg: 12-02-2025

Between:

Narasaiah, S/o Muddekadaraiah Residing at Byalalu Village, Tavarakere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru-562130 and Others

...Claimants,

And

Special Land Acquisition Officer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru-560 009

....Respondent/s,

PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER -5 RULE -20 OF C.P.C.

Notice to Claimant Nos.19 and 20:

Claimant No.19-
Sri Narasimhaiah, Major, S/o Sri Chikkamuniyappa, residing at Byalalu Village, Tavarakere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru.

Claimant No.20 -
Sri Venkatagiriyappa, Major, S/o Sri Raghavendra, residing at Byalalu Village, Tavarakere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru.

WHERE AS, the Respondent-Board has made a reference before the Hon'ble II Addl., City Civil Court (CCH-17) vide o.KHB/LAQ/5/2010-11 under Secetion 77(1) of the Right to fair compensation and transference Act 2013. It relates to acquisition of land in Sy.No.62/7 measuring 0-37 Guntas in Byalalu Village, Tavarakere Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru District vide Declaration No.RD:204:Bhu. Swa. Be:2012 dated: 27-11-2012. The award amount has been deposited before the Hon'ble Court.

You are arrayed as parties to the above case, hence you are hereby summoned to appear before this Court on **12th February 2025 at 11-00 A.M.** in person or through an advocate to answer the question to the same. Failing which, the case will be heard and decided in your absence as ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this **13 day of December 2024.**

By order of the Court
Senior Sheristedar,
City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

R. A. Kulkarni.
Karnataka Housing Board
Advocate, Flat No.21031,
3rd Floor Tata New Heaven apartment, Sheshigiri Rao Palya, Near Dasanapura APMB Sub-yard, Huskur Main Road, Bengaluru-562162.
Mob: 98455 83586.
DIPR/CP/RO4085/AAPL/2024-25

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby notified that my Client proposes to purchase the below mentioned Property from Smt. Padma alias Padmamma wife of Late Srinivasaiah, aged about 67 years, residing at Government Junior College, Varthur Main Road, Varthur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore-560087 who has represented that she is the absolute owner over the Property described in Schedule Property through the Confirmation of Partition Deed executed on 22.03.2021 and registered on 26.03.2021, registered as Document No.BNS-1-18505-2020-21, Book-1, recorded in CD No.BNSD1240, registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar Banaswadi, Bangalore and since then she is enjoying the Property described in Schedule Property together with all rights, title and interest. Persons objecting for the proposed purchase or having any right in the Schedule Property may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned along with supporting documentary evidence within **10 (Ten) Days** from the date of this publication and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on my Client and my Client will proceed to purchase the below mentioned Properties morefully described in the Schedule Property as if there are no claims/objections.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Property bearing Sy.No.16/8 (Old No.16/1), situated at Sulikunte Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore measuring 1 Acre and ½ Gunta Kharab land, and bounded by: **East:** Property belongs to Sri. Krishnappa, **West:** Property belongs to Sri. Nagappa G M, Sri. Venkataramanappa and Sri. Muniraju, **North:** Property belongs to Krishnappa and S. C. Subbaiah, **South:** Property belongs to Krishnappa son of Ramaiah and land belonging to Muniwamy son of Ramaiah

MANJUNATHA .C.N, Advocate
No.3, 1st Floor, Municipal Building, Opposite to Taluk Office, Hosakote, Bangalore Rural District-562114. Date:03-01-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to the General public that my client is intending to purchase the below-mentioned Schedule property for a valuable consideration from its absolute owner's **Smt Roopali W/o Gorur Manjunath Chetan,** aged about 43 years residing at Flat No 007, Sankalp Serene Apartment, 3rd Stage 15/A20, Industrial Suburb, Maharshi School road, Khille Mohalla, Mysore, hence if anybody / General public has any Right, Title, Interest or Claim/s, Lien/s, Objection/s, Charge/s, or GPA holder, etc., over the Schedule Property shall contact me at the below mentioned address during the working hours, with the documentary proof/s in original **within 10 (Ten) days** from the date of this publication. Failing which it will be presumed by my client that (a) there are no claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, etc., (b) if any, the same is / are deemed to have been waived and thus my client will be obliged to proceed with the execution and Registration of the Absolute Sale Deed as if there are no valid claim/s, lien/s, objection/s, charge/s, etc., subsisting against the Schedule property.

SCHEDULE A

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing flat No 303, on the Third Floor of the Uppal Towers Building on the schedule property Measuring a Super Buil up area of 1150 Square Feet Consisting of 2 Bed Rooms, 1 Hall, 1 Kitchen, 1 Attached Bathroom, and Toilet along with 211.68 Square Feet carved out of Site no 10,11,20 and 21 Formed in Converted land Bearing SY NO 21 and 22 of Dasarahalli village, Tumkur Road, Yeshawanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk Bangalore Measuring East to West 60 Feet and North to South 80 Feet in all measuring 4800 Square Feet Bounded on, **East by :** Property no 9 and 19, **West by:** Property no 12 and 22, **North by :** National Highway no 4, **South by :** 30 Feet Road,

Kenche Gowda Patel, BAL, LLB
Advocate, # 2394, SK Complex, Kanthraj Urs road, K.G Koppal Mysore. **Mobile: 9632299404**
Email: kenchegowdapatel@gmail.com
Date: 03-01-2025, Mysore

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 13 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008, and pursuant to Rule 30 of the Limited Liability Partnership Rules, 2009, that the registered office of J.S.M. ENGINEERS LLP LLPIN AAD-4669 currently situated at No.39/4A DoddaKallasandra, Kanakapura Main Road, Bangalore, Karnataka-India, 560062, is proposed to be shifted to a new address at Plot No. 839/B, 2nd floor, Road No. 44 A, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad,Telangana-500033.

Any person or authority having any objection or suggestion to the proposed change of registered office may send their objection or suggestion in writing to the Registrar of Companies, Karnataka and to the LLP at its current registered office address within a period of 21 days from the publication of this notice.

For J.S.M. ENGINEERS LLP
SD/-
[Mr. RAVI RAJ BODA]
Date:03-01-2025 [Designated Partner]
Place: Bengaluru [DIN:01986008]

QuoteExpress **KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE STARS, AND YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND**
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE LVII ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-61)

O.S No. 6982/2023

BETWEEN:STATE BANK OF INIDA
Retail Asset Central Processing Center, Basavanagudi, No.13/1, Bull Temple Road, Opp. Sri Ramakrishna Mutt, Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004 Represented by its Chief Manager Mr. Basavaraja K.N Aged about 53 Years **...PLAINTIFF**

AND: Mr.Prashant Pradhan **...DEFENDANT**

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT UNDER ORDER V RULE 20(1) OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 1908

Mr.Prashant Pradhan S/o Shanta Kumar P. House No.24, 2nd Cross, Syndicate, Bennerghatta Road, Bangalore-560076 Ph. No: 8494906436

Also at: Mr. Prashant Pradhan S/o Shanta Kumar P, House No.318, Nivedita Road, Pradhan Nagar, Lale Town, Darjeeling, West Bengal-734403

Also at:Mr. Prashant Pradhan S/o Shanta Kumar P, Aegis Customer Services Pvt Ltd, Managerial Department, Manager, Explorer Building, 6th & 7th Floor, ITPL, Whitefield Main Road, Bangalore- 560066

Whereas the plaintiff instituted a suit against you for recovery of Rs.12,77,953.76/-(Rupees Twelve Lakh seventy Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Three and Paisa Seventy Six Only) along with current and further interest @ 9.30% p.a., with a penal interest @ of 2% p.a., from to till the date of realization.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble court on **04/2/25 at 11.00 A.M** in person or through the Advocate/pleader to answer the question to the same failing which the suit will be heard and determined as Ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court, this 18th day of September 2024.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Court, Bangalore

Padmashree M Advocate for Plaintiff
No. 29, 3rd Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Bhopasandra, Bangalore-560 094

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owner **Smt.ANURADHA SIMHA** D/o late S.L.Simha, residing at: No.27, 'Symbiosis Bellave', Police Station Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru – 560004.

Apart from the said owner, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the vacant residential property bearing Municipal No.54 (old No.94) PID No.51-4-54, measuring East to West 50ft and North to South 70ft, together with passage on the North Eastern Side measuring East to West 50ft and North to South 10ft, in all measuring 4000 Sq.ft, situated at Puttanna Road, Basavanagudi, Bangalore–560004 and bounded on:

East by : Property of Sri.Prathap Simha and Smt.Suparna M. Hemanth and passage leading to Puttanna Road
West by : Conservancy
North by : Private Property
South by : Private Property

Sd/- S.F. GOUTAM CHAND, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

TATA CAPITAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Regd. Office : 11th Floor, Tower A, Peninsula Business Park, Ganapatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400013. Contact No. (022) 61827414, (022) 61827375
CIN No. U67190MH2008PLC187552

POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)
(As per Rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the TATA Capital Housing Finance Limited., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated as below calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrower, having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, in particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said Rules.

The borrower, in particular, and the public in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **TATA Capital Housing Finance Limited**, for an amount referred to below along with interest thereon and penal interest, charges, costs etc. from date of demand notice.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Loan Account No.	Name of Obligor(s)/ Legal Heir(s)/ Legal Representative(s)	Amount & Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession
TCHHL0845000100117545 & TCHIN0493000100120874	**Mr. Ravi Kumar** (Borrower) **and Mrs.MANJULA M as** (Co Borrower)	As on 11th Oct, 2024, Rs.73,04,825/-	2nd Jan, 2025

Schedule of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the converted bearing Site No.6, Old Khata No.288/166, Pattangere Katha No.156, Rajarajeshwari CMC Katha No.155 situated at Halagevaderahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore with BBMP Katha No.155/6/288/166/155 and East to West: 45 Feet and North to South: 30 Feet measuring 1350 square feet with and bounded as follows:- EAST BY : Private Property WEST BY : Road NORTH BY : Site No.5, SOUTH BY : Site No.7.

Date : 2nd Jan 2025 **For Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited**
Place : Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer**

TENDER NOTICE

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK

kerala EMPOWERING THE FUTURE

Tender No.: ETPK/E-WASTE/2024-25

Sealed tenders are invited from Recyclers / Refurbishers registered on the E Waste Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) portal of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) for the collection of hazardous e-waste, on an 'as is, where is' basis, from companies operating within the Technopark campuses. For further details, please visit www.technopark.org/tenders

Date 04.01.2025 Chief Executive Officer
Trivandrum D3/1/2025/I&PRD Technopark

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its sole and absolute Owner **SRI.B.BETTAIAH** S/o Late Bettegowda, residing at No.32, 23rd 'A' Main, 7th 'A' Cross, JP Nagar II Phase, Bengaluru-560078.

Apart from the said Owner, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title, interest or claim over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, sub-lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s or claims with the undersigned (along with the photocopies of the documents based on which they rely for asserting their rights), **within 14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the **Southern portion** of the immovable property bearing Municipal No.6, PID No.57-333-6, admeasuring 10,800 Sq.ft [old site Nos.6, 7, 12 & 13 - carved out of the land bearing Sy.No.32 of Marenahalli Village, in which a layout was approved by the Bangalore Development Authority for Scheduled Caste (Harijan) House Building Co-operative Society Limited], with buildings/sheds thereon, situated at S.C.(Harijan) H.B.C.S. Layout, Marenahalli 2nd Phase, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore, within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Ward No.177-JP Nagar Ward and bounded on:

East by : 30 ft Road
West by : 80 ft Road
North by : Remaining portion of the Property No.6
South by : 30 ft Road

Sd/- S.F. GOUTAM CHAND, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

Government of Karnataka
RURAL DRINKING WATER & SANITATION DEPARTMENT
Office Of Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division Belagavi Near Krishna Devaraya Circle, 1st Floor of PRED Division, Nehru Nagar- 590010

No.RDW&S/BGM/PB-2/TND-7/KW-3/2024-255/2738 Dated: 01/01/2025

ITEM RATE TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT)

I) The Executive Engineer, RDW&S Division, Belgaum invites item rate tenders on behalf of Governor of Karnataka State Government from the eligible contractors II) Indent Number: 8573/CALL-2,

Calendar events are as follows: i) Last date & time for receipt of tenders through e-portal: 09-01-2025 before 17:00 hours.iii) Date of Opening of Technical Bid: 11-01-2025 before 17:30 Hours iv) Date of Opening of Financial Bid: After Technical Bid approval IV) Amount put to Tender, EMD, work completion period, Class of contractor, eligibility criteria are as published in e-procurement portal. (Including Rainy Season).

More details can be had from the office of the undersigned and also through website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** by clicking list of Tenders which will link to all dept works list.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
RDW & S Division, Belagavi.

DIPO/BGM/RONO.1408/24-25

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Dy. Chief Engineer/Line, South Eastern Railway, Kolkata, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites Open E-Tender for the following work : **Tender No. : SER-OL-HQ-TR-W-01-25. Name of the work :** Ultrasonic Testing of Rails including through testing of Rails and welds with contractor's own B-Scan Machines equipped with 9 channels SRT/DRT and two extra 37 degree probes and Operators on nominated routes over South Eastern Railway including hand probing (flange testing) of welds as per Indian Railway Standard Specification for Ultrasonic Testing of Rails/Welds, Revised-2020 (Document No. T-53) and Manual for Ultrasonic testing of Rails and Welds, Revised 2022 (with latest amendment) issued by RDSO. **Approx. Cost of the Work :** ₹ 43,29,70,903/-. **Bid Security :** ₹ 23,14,900/-. **Date and time of Closing of Tender :** 27.01.2025 at 15:00 hrs. **Website particulars :** Complete details for e-tendering and online participation for the above work is on website **www.ireps.gov.in** **(PR-976)**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General public that my client **Mr. D. VENKATARAMANA SWAMY,** S/o. Dasasetty, intends to purchase House property bearing Khatha No.3-506-322, Ward No.5 of Town Municipality, Kanakapura, in all measuring 15.240030 x 55.168910, in all measuring 840.77215 square meters, site formed in Sy.No.706/1 of Kanakanahalli village, Kasaba Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Property bearing Municipal No.599, Azadnagar, Kanakanahalli, now known as Kanakapura, Kasaba Hobli, Ramanagara District, Property bearing Old khatha No.1088/947, New No.1654/1088, Azad Layout, Sri Navagraha Devasthana Temple, Kanakapura Town, Kanakapura and bounded on the : **EAST BY :** Mariyappa & others property, **WEST BY :** Shankar & Basavaiah's Property, **NORTH BY :** Road, **SOUTH BY :** Road, from Mr. SUBBARAYA.K, Mr.SRINIVAS MURTHY, Mrs. PADMA SRINIVAS and Mrs.Y .G. SUDHA, children of Mr. K.S. Krishna Murthy. Any person/s asserting any kind of right, title, interest or claims of any sort towards the Sale transaction may file their objections or claims with documentary proof thereof with the undersigned within **(5) Five days** from the date of this publication, failing which my client will proceed to complete the transaction without being liable for any claims put forth thereof.

RAJAGOPALA NAIDU & PRASHANT N RAJ, Advocates,
No.4, 'Krishnaraja' 4th Floor, 50 Feet Road, Hanumanthanagar, Bengaluru - 560 019.

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD

Karnataka Housing Board Building Communities

3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

Karnataka Housing Board invites tenders from eligible Pre qualified contractors & willing to Pre qualify in Karnataka Housing Board through Karnataka public procurement portal for the below mentioned works.

Last date for submission of bid: 03.02.2025 upto 4.00 PM

Sl.No.	Name of the work
1	Construction of Post Metric Boys Hostel at Gadag, Gadag Taluk, Gadag District (BCWD-531). **Work Indent No.:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 461 & IFT No. 218/2024-25 Date: 02.01.2025 . **Amount Put to tender :** Rs. 2,98,70,595/-
2	Construction of Post Metric Boys Hostel at Narasapura, Gadag Taluk, Gadag District (BCWD-1978). **Work Indent No.:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 462 & IFT No. 219/2024-25 Date: 02.01.2025. **Amount Put to tender :** Rs. 2,98,80,032/-
3	Construction of Post Metric Boys Hostel at Rona, Rona Taluk, Gadag District (BCWD-1994). **Work Indent No.:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 460 & IFT No. 217/2024-25 Date: 02.01.2025. **Amount Put to tender :** Rs. 2,98,77,248/-
4	Construction of Post Metric Girls Hostel at Bellatti, Shirahatti Taluk, Gadag District (BCWD-2000). **Work Indent No.:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 463 & IFT No. 220/2024-25 Date: 02.01.2025. **Amount Put to tender :** Rs. 2,98,84,205/-
5	Construction of Post Metric Girls Hostel at Rona, Rona Taluk, Gadag District (BCWD-1996). **Work Indent No.:** Tender Reference Number: KHB/2024-25/BD/WORK_INDENT 464 & IFT No. 221/2024-25 Date: 02.01.2025 **Amount Put to tender :** Rs. 3,00,10,748/-

For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511/080-22100077, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/4102/AKAR/2024-25 **Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru**

ICICI Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068

PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is' and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Mr. C Ganesh Kumar (Borrower) Mrs. Monica P (Co-Borrower) Loan Account Number LBBNG00006023311/ LBBNG00006171750	All That Piece and Parcel of The Western Portion of Residential Property Bearing Site No.3B, Assessment No.55/2, Bbmp Khatha No. 52/2/3B, Property I. D. No. 55/2/55/2/3B/3B, Situated at Gollahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Comes Under The Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore and Measuring: East To West: 20-0 (Twenty) Feet, North To South: 35-0 (Thirty- Five) Feet, Totally Measuring: 700 (Seven Hundred) Square Feet, and Bounded on The: East By: Remaining Eastern Portion of Property Bearing Site No.3B, West By: Site No.4B, North By: 20 Feet Road, South By: Site No.3A	Rs. 50,36,085.89/- (as on January 04, 2025)	Rs. 30,00, 000/- / Rs. 3,00, 000/-	January 10, 2025 from 11:00 AM to 02:00 PM	January 27, 2025 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

The online auction will be conducted on the (https://disposalhub.com) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ Noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by January 24, 2025 before 04:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068 on or before January 24, 2025 before 05:00 PM Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before January 24, 2025 before 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank limited, 1st Floor, West Wing, DSMG, Mythri Centre, Hosur Main Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068 on or before January 24, 2025 before 05:00 PM Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Bangalore.

For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 9844542086/8008999536.

The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Date : January 04, 2025 Authorized Officer
Place: Bangalore ICICI Bank Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD
R/SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO, 11121 OF 2024

FIXED ON 22.01.2025
DISTRICT: NARMADA
Mr Abhijit P. Joshi Ld. Advocate for the Petitioner(s)

STATE BANK OF INDIA . .....**Petitioner(s)**
VERSUS
THE NARMADA VALLY CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES PVT LTD., & ORS .Respondent (s)

3. YAKIMA FILTERS PVT LTD., THROUGH DR. ASLAM M. ALI (SINCE DECEASED), HIS LEGAL HEIRS YASMIN ASLAM ALI, 119, FIFTH MAIN, FIRST FLOOR, THIRD PHASE, BSK THIRD STAGE, BANGALORE - 560 085.

4. DR. ASLAM M. ALI (SINCE DEDEASED) - THROUGH HIS LEGAL HEIRS YASMIN ASLAM ALI, 119, FIFTH MAIN, FIRST BLOCK, THIRD PHASE, BSK THIRD STAGE, BANGALORE- 560 085.

Take Notice that the Petitioner(s) above named having presented a SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION to this High Court under the Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India praying to quash and set aside the order passed by Learned Principal Senior Civil Judge, Narmada at Rajpipla below Exh.121 on 20.02.2024, Special Civil Suit No. 26 of 2015, and the same having been registered on 26.07.2024 in this Court as SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION No. 11121Of '2024.

Whereas upon hearing the in CIVIL APPLICATION (FOR SUBSTITUTE SERVICE) NO. 1 OF 2024 IN R/ SPECIAL CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 11121 OF 2024 Honourable Court (CORAM: HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE ILESH J. VORA) had on 24.12.2024 ordered to issue **Public Notice** to Respondent No. 3 and 4 by way of Public Notice in the widely circulated local daily news paper of vernacular language as well as in any national daily of English language.

Take **NOTICE** that the hearing of the said R/Special Civil application will take place on **22nd day of January, 2025** at 11 A.M. peremptorily in this Court and if no appearance is made on your behalf, by yourself, your advocate or by someone authorised by law to act for you, it will be heard and determined in your absence.

Witness Sunita Agarwal, Esquire the Chief Justice at Ahmedabad aforesaid this 24th day of December, 2024.

By the Court
Sd/-
(H. D. PUROHIT)
Assistant Registrar
Dated : 02.01.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **C N Suryanarayanareddy** S/o Late C Narasimhareddy is willing to purchase a **Site No. 9,** Meenakunte Panchayath Katha: 418/59/9, Property No. 150200203100800 445, formed in Sy.No.59, of Maranayakana-halli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Converted for residential purpose vide Conversion order No. ALN/SR:04/2004-05, by the concerned Assistant Commissioner, dated: 28/09/2004, Measuring East - West 60 ft and North - South 55.25 ft & bounded on: East by - Road, West by - Private property, North by - Road, South by - Site No. 10, from Patil Bhaskar S/o Patil Eshwara Reddy.

If there be any person interested in the said property may come forward with their objections and appraise the buyer through his counsel at below mentioned address, **within 7 days** from this notice to the below mentioned address .

Jaganatha Reddy .Y.N, Advocate
#25/1, 2nd Floor, "Ananda Nivas" 3rd Cross, 6th Main, Gandhinagar, Bangalore-560 009. M. 9900909013

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK

(A Scheduled Commercial Bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 &12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangala Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

E-AUCTION NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT (SARFAESI ACT) 2002, READ WITH PROVISO RULE 8(6) & 9 OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002.

The undersigned as authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the following property in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT. The Borrower in particular and public at large are informed that online auction (e-auction)of the mortgage property in the below mentioned account for realisation of dues of the Bank will be held on **"AS IS WHERE IS BASIS "** and **"AS IS WHAT IS BASIS"** on the date as prescribed as here under.

Sr. No.	Loan Account Number	Name of Original Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor	Date of 13-2 Notice	Date of Possession	Present Outstanding balance as on 30.12.2024	Date & Time of Inspection of the property	Reserve Price in INR	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in INR	Date and Time of E-Auction	Last Date Time & Place for submission of Bid
1	45359440000141	1) Mr. Kenchappa G, 2) Mrs. Lakshmamma K, 3) Mrs. Sakamma G	22.06.2024	15.11.2024	Rs.4,50,453.70 (Rupees Four Lakh Fifty Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Three and Seventy Paisa Only)	16.01.2025 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.8,10,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Ten Thousand Only)	Rs.81,000/- (Rupees Eighty One Thousand Only)	22.01.2025 @ 02:00 PM	21.01.2025, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: All the piece and parcel of the Property bearing Southern half portion of Site No.76, Sy.No.23, New V P Katha No.126/23/76, Measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 15 Feet, Totally Measuring 600 Sq.feet, Situated at Kenchanapalya Village, K Gollahalli, Gram Panchayath, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and **Bounded on: East by:** House No.77, **West by:** Site No.75 and Road, **North by:** Remaining Northern half portion of same number property belongs to Mr. Shanthakumar & **South by:** Agriculture Land and House.									
2	30258300000196	1) Mr. Santhosh J, 2) Mrs. Premaleela, 3) Mr. Bichitrananda Singh, Also at: M/s. V.J. Industries Pvt. Ltd.	16.07.2024	23.12.2024	Rs.5,45,095.00 (Rupees Five Lakh Forty Five Thousand Ninety Five Only)	24.01.2025 Time: 09:30 AM to 05:00 PM	Rs.8,40,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Forty Thousand Only)	Rs.84,000/- (Rupees Eighty Four Thousand Only)	07.02.2025 @ 02:00 PM	06.02.2025, Till 5.00 PM Jana Small Finance Bank Ltd., The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071
	Details of Secured Assets: Schedule "A": All that piece and parcel of the residentially converted lands totally measuring about 11 Acres and 18 Guntas including the Kharab Land in Survey Nos.39/1, 39/2, 40/3 and 42/1 all situated at M.Medahalli, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore and **Bounded on the: East by:** Lands in Survey No.43, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Mayasandra Gadi & **South by:** Lands in Survey No.41. **Schedule "B": Property to be Conveyed:** The undivided share, right, title and interest in the schedule "A" Property mentioned above works out to 195 square feet. **Schedule "C": Apartment:** Residential Apartment bearing No.A-102, Khatha No.577, Assessment No.T-9-FF-A-102, First Floor

Two
people died and 18 were injured when a small plane crashed in California

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	5	-8	SNY	Los Angeles	25	10	SNY
Colombo	31	24	SNY	Melbourne	37	21	SNY
Dhaka	27	16	SNY	Moscow	-2	-4	LC
Dubai	22	14	SNY	New York	3	-3	SNY
Houston	15	13	LC	Singapore	31	26	LR
Istanbul	12	10	SNY	Toronto	-1	-5	SNY
London	5	-1	SNY	Washington	8	4	LR

AVIATION

'Boeing needs culture change to put safety above profits'

WASHINGTON

A year after a panel blew out of a Boeing 737 Max during flight, the nation's top aviation regulator says the company needs "a fundamental cultural shift" to put safety and quality above profits.

Mike Whitaker, chief of the Federal Aviation Administration, said in an online post Friday that his agency also has more work to do in its oversight of Boeing.

Whitaker, who plans to step down in two weeks to let President-elect Donald Trump pick his own FAA administrator, looked back on his decision last January to ground all 737 Max jets with similar panels called door plugs. Later, the FAA put more inspectors in Boeing factories, limited production of new 737s, and required Boeing to come up with a plan to fix manufacturing problems.

"Boeing is working to make progress executing its comprehensive plan in the areas of safety, quality improvement and effective employee engagement and training," Whitaker said. "But this is not a one-year project. What's needed is a fundamental cultural shift at Boeing that's oriented around safety and quality above profits. That will require sustained effort and commitment from Boeing, and unwavering scrutiny on our part."

The National Transportation Safety Board continues to investigate the door-plug blowout on an Alaska Airlines Max jet. Despite a gaping hole in the side, pilots landed the plane safely in Portland, Oregon, and no serious injuries were reported.

A month after the accident, investigators said in a preliminary report that bolts used to help secure the panel were not replaced after work in a Boeing factory.

Whitaker said the FAA will review any recommendations that the safety board makes to improve FAA's oversight work. Last summer, he admitted that FAA's scrutiny of Boeing wasn't good enough. *AFP*

South Korean investigators left the official residence of Yoon Suk Yeol on Friday | AP

High drama as Yoon uses guards to fend off cops

Investigators leave residence of impeached South Korean leader after 6-hour standoff

SEOUL

SOUTH Korean investigators abandoned their attempt to arrest impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol at his residence on Friday over a failed martial law bid, citing safety concerns after a standoff with his security team.

Yoon, who has already been suspended from duty by lawmakers, would become the first sitting president in South Korean history to be arrested if the warrant is carried out.

The president, who issued a bungled declaration on December 3 that shook the vibrant East Asian democracy and briefly lurched it back to the dark days of military rule, faces imprisonment or, at worst, the death penalty.

"Regarding the execution of the arrest warrant today, it was determined that the execution was effectively impossible due to the ongoing standoff," the Corruption Investigation Office (CIO), probing Yoon over his martial law decree, said in a statement.

"Concern for the safety of personnel on-site led to the decision to halt" the arrest attempt, the statement said of the confrontation with Yoon's presidential security service and its military unit.

Around 20 investigators and 80 police officers were heavily outnumbered by around 200 soldiers and security personnel linking arms to block their way after entering the presidential compound, a CIO official said.

"I understand there were minor and major physical altercations," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, adding that buses and cars were also parked to block their way. Negotiations between the two sides ultimately faltered and the investigators decided to leave for their team's safety, although another execution of the warrant could take place after a review, the official said.

The deadline for the warrant is Monday, leaving it in limbo with just a few days remaining and Yoon defiant, vowing this week to "fight" authorities trying to question him.

Yoon's security service — which still protects him as the country's sitting head of state — has previously blocked attempted police raids of the presidential office. *AFP*

Israeli airstrikes kill at least 42 in Gaza

DEIR AL-BALAH

ISRAELI strikes killed at least 42 people in Gaza, including children, overnight and into Friday, hospital and emergency response workers said, as health workers and Israel's military traded claims over reported evacuation orders for two hospitals in the territory's largely isolated north.

The assertions over Al-Awda and Indonesian hospitals occurred as stalled ceasefire talks to end nearly 15 months of war were set to resume in Qatar.

Staff at the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital said that more than a dozen women and children were killed in strikes in central Gaza, including in Nuseirat, Zawaida, Maghazi and Deir al-Balah. Dozens of people were killed across the enclave the previous day.

"We woke up to the missile strike. We found the whole house disintegrated," Abdul Rahman Al-Nabrisi said in the Maghazi refugee camp.

Later Friday, officials at Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital said that an airstrike killed three people in a car in Zawaida in central Gaza. And the Civil Defence, first responders affiliated with the Hamas-run government, said that an airstrike killed seven people, including four children and a woman, in the Shijaiyah neighbourhood outside Gaza City, and another strike killed two people at Al-Samer junction in Gaza City.

The Israeli army said in a statement that during the past day it had struck dozens of Hamas gathering points and command centres throughout Gaza. And it warned people to leave an area of central Gaza, saying that it would attack following launches toward Israel. The military said that a few projectiles entered from central and northern Gaza, with no injuries reported.

Freelance journalist Omar al-Derawi was among those killed Friday. A press vest was placed on his shroud. The Committee to Protect Journalists said last month that more than 130 Palestinian reporters have been killed in the war. *AP*

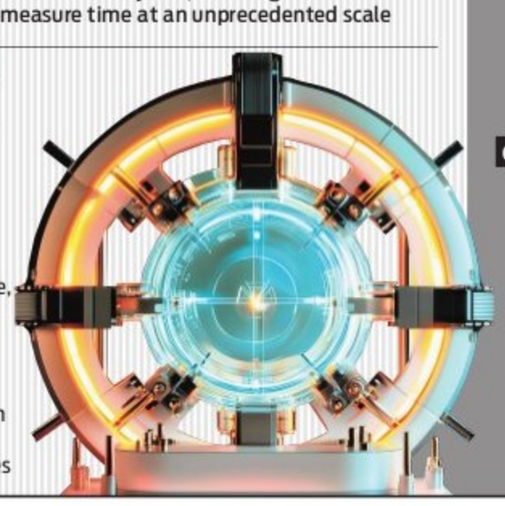
Palestinians check the destruction in the aftermath of an Israeli strike in the al-Maghazi refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip on Friday | AFP

UK military lab develops atomic clock using quantum technology

A 'groundbreaking' atomic clock built at a top-secret UK lab will make military operations more secure through experimental quantum technology over the years, the country's Ministry of Defence (MoD) has claimed

ACCURACY
UK Ministry of Defence claims the clock's precision is so refined that it will lose less than one second over billions of years, allowing scientists to measure time at an unprecedented scale

'A LEAP FORWARD'
Developed at the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL), the quantum clock has been dubbed a leap forward in improving intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance by decreasing the reliance on GPS technology, which can be disrupted and blocked by adversaries



WHAT IS AN ATOMIC CLOCK
1. An atomic clock uses an internal resonance frequency of atoms or molecules to measure the passage of time
2. According to Physics.org, a quantum clock uses quantum mechanics — the physics of matter and energy at the atomic and subatomic scale — to keep time with unprecedented accuracy by measuring energy fluctuations within atoms

CUTS RELIANCE ON GPS
Some of the major benefits of the technology include enabling more precise and independent navigation systems, reducing reliance on GPS satellites, which are vulnerable to jamming or destruction by nenemy forces during in conflict scenarios

WHITE HOUSE

Biden blocks Japan firm's $15 bn deal to acquire US Steel

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden has blocked the nearly USD 15 billion proposed deal for Nippon Steel of Japan to purchase Pittsburgh-based US Steel affirming his earlier vow on the presidential campaign trail to prevent the acquisition of Steeltown USA's most storied steel company.

The proposed deal kicked up an election year political maelstrom across America's industrial heartland and blocking it drew a threat of litigation from Nippon Steel. "We need major US companies representing the major share of US steelmaking capacity to keep leading the fight on behalf of America's national interests," Biden said in a Friday morning statement.

Nippon Steel and US Steel blasted the decision, saying in a joint statement that Biden's blocking the deal 'reflects a clear violation of due process and the law' in a process it said was 'manipulated' to advance Biden's political agenda.

It also insisted that Biden cited no credible evidence of the deal presenting a national security problem and suggested it will sue, saying "we are left with no choice but to take all appropriate action to protect our legal rights."

Biden's decision comes after the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, known as CFIUS, failed to reach consensus on the possible national security risks of the deal last month, and sent a long-awaited report on the merger to Biden.

He had 15 days to reach a final decision. The committee, chaired by Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen and made up of other Cabinet members, can recommend that the president block a transaction, and federal law gives the president that power. *AP*

ASIA MATTERS

MALAYSIA

196 ROHINGYA MIGRANTS DETAINED

Malaysian police on Friday detained almost 200 migrants "believed to be Rohingya" from Myanmar after their boat ran aground on the northern resort island of Langkawi.The group comprises 68 men, 57 women, 32 boys and 39 girls, police said. "All detainees are believed to be from the Rohingya ethnic group, who are believed to have departed Myanmar by boat approximately 10 days ago," Langkawi police chief Shariman Ashari said in a statement. They have been referred to the immigration department in Langkawi and had undergone health screenings, he added.

INDONESIA

2024 WAS HOTTEST: WEATHER OFFICE

Indonesia experienced its hottest year on record in 2024, the country's weather agency said Friday, matching several other nations which have reported similar rises in temperature. Indonesia still relies enormously on fossil fuel energy and is listed as one of the top greenhouse gas emitters in the world.

THAILAND

PM DECLARES ASSETS WORTH $400 MILLION

Thailand's Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra declared more than $400 million in assets on Friday, her party said, including more than 200 designer handbags worth over $2 million and at least 75 luxury watches valued at almost $5 million.Paetongtarn, the youngest daughter of telecom billionaire and ex-prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra, took office in September as the fourth member of the clan to lead a Thai government in 20 years. Paetongtarn was obliged to declare her assets and liabilities to the National Anti-Corruption Commission.

Musk misinformed, says UK minister in pushback on grooming scandal criticism

LONDON

A senior British politician pushed back on Friday on Elon Musk's criticism of the government's handling of a historic child grooming scandal.

In recent days, Musk has shared and reacted to posts on his X platform that have been critical of the British government after it rejected a call for a public inquiry into the grooming scandal in the north of England town of Oldham.

Though Health Secretary Wes Streeting said Musk's views were was "misjudged and certainly misinformed', he urged the world's richest man and close confidant of US President-elect Donald Trump to work with the government on tackling the issue of child sexual exploitation. The government has argued that Oldham must follow in the footsteps of other towns and commission its own inquiry into the historical abuse of mainly girls.

Wes Streeting

A 2022 report into safeguarding measures in Oldham between 2011 and 2014 found that children were failed by local agencies, but that there was no cover-up despite 'legitimate concerns' that the far-right would capitalise on 'the high-profile convictions of predominantly Pakistani offenders across the country".

Musk has also targeted British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who he claimed had failed to bring what many term 'rape gangs' to justice when he was the director of public prosecutions between 2008 and 2013. The scandals, Musk said on Friday, represent a "massive crime against humanity".

Streeting told ITV News that the government took child sexual exploitation "incredibly seriously" and that it was supportive of an inquiry into the Oldham scandal, but that it should be led locally.

"Some of the criticisms that Elon Musk has made, I think are misjudged and certainly misinformed, but we're willing to work with Elon Musk, who I think has got a big role to play with his social media platform to help us and other countries to tackle this serious issue," Streeting said. "So if he wants to work with us and roll his sleeves up, we'd welcome that."

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EXPRESS READ

Apple to pay $95 million to settle lawsuit

California: Apple has agreed to pay USD 95 million to settle a lawsuit accusing the privacy-minded company of deploying its virtual assistant Siri to eavesdrop on people using its iPhone and other trendy devices. The proposed settlement filed Tuesday in an Oakland, California, federal court would resolve a 5-year-old lawsuit revolving around allegations that Apple surreptitiously activated Siri to record conversations through iPhones and other devices.

Call for cancer warning on alcohol label

Washington: Alcohol is a leading cause of cancer, a risk that should be clearly labelled on drinks Americans consume, US Surgeon General Vivek Murthy proposed on Friday. Murthy's advisory comes as research and evidence mounts about the bad effects that alcohol has on human health.

Diamond from Modi, Jill Biden's most expensive gift in '23

WASHINGTON

A $20,000 diamond presented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to United States' First Lady Jill Biden was the most expensive gift given by any world leader to the Biden family in 2023, the US State Department has said here. The 7.5 carat eco-friendly, lab-grown diamond was gifted by Modi in June 2023 at a private dinner at the White House during his state visit on an invitation by President Joe Biden.

According to the exchange rate then, the diamond's cost was about ₹16 lakh. Modi gifted Biden a 'Carved Sandalwood Box,' a book titled *The Ten Principal Upanishads*, a statue, and an oil lamp, valued together at an estimated USD 6,232.00.

While President Biden's gifts have been transferred to the National Archieves and Records Administration (NARA), the First Lady's diamond has been retained 'For Official Use in the East Wing,' said the annual accounting published by the State Department on Thursday.

The 7.5 carat diamond was manufactured in a factory in Gujarat's Surat by using a technology, which recreates the same process that takes place beneath the earth in formation of the natural diamonds, according to Smit Patel, convenor of the Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC).

The 7.5 carat lab-grown diamond gifted by Modi to Jill Biden

"The Kohinoor was a Type Two, a pure diamond. This diamond (gifted by PM) is 7.5 carat, which represents the 75 years of Independence. Also, this diamond was created using green energy, so that is also a step towards showing that India is moving towards green and renewable energy — a goal espoused by PM Modi himself," Patel had said in 2023.

Earlier in November 2022, Modi had gifted a painting valued at US 1,000 to Biden, the US State Department records show. Other gifts that Modi gave in the US include a 'Wall Hanging' valued at an estimated $850 to Kurt Campbell, the Deputy Assistant to the President and Coordinator for Indo-Pacific Affairs; a 'Jali Work Box' with an estimated value of $125 to Mitch McConnell, a US Senator, and a 'Camel Bone Box' valued at an estimated $125 to Charles E Schumer, another US Senator.

'EV sector needs no more subsidies'

Sector is ready, there are options available by which e-mobility can be marketed, says Goyal

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE electric mobility sector doesn't need additional incentives as existing subsidies available to them are good enough to give necessary kickstart to the sector, commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal said after meeting the stakeholders here on Friday.

The representatives of the sector met the minister for a discussion on the charging and battery swapping infra. "E-mobility sector is ready and set to fly. They don't need additional incentives. In almost all sectors now, there are options available by which -emobility can be marketed. It's a good economic case to move from ICE engine to EVs and hybrids," the minister told the media.

"Everybody was unanimous in the room across sectors that they don't require subsidies."

Currently, the government offers subsidies and incentives under the PM Electric Drive Revolution in Innovative Vehicle Enhancement (PM E-DRIVE)' scheme. Under the scheme, subsidies are given for purchase of electric two-wheelers (e-2W), e-three-wheelers (e-3W), e-ambulances, e-trucks, and other emerging categories of EVs. Apart from that, funding is provided for acquisition of e-buses, establishment of a network of charging stations and upgrading of the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) testing facilities.

The government has made a outlay of ₹10,900 crore for the scheme, effective October 1, 2024, and will remain in force until March 31, 2026. The Centre offers a production-linked incentive scheme for automobile and auto component industry (PLI-AAT) with an outlay of ₹25,938 crore for enhancing manufacturing capabilities for advanced automotive products including EVs and their components. The scheme incentivises various categories of EVs including e-2W, e-3W, e-4W, e-trucks & e-buses.

"Newer incentives for EV are not needed at the moment. Centre is offering an array of benefits to promote EV adoption. Many industry players have yet to fully leverage existing initiatives like auto PLI schemes. We anticipate 2025-2026 to be a pivotal period for the EV ecosystem in India,," said Puneet Gupta, director, S&P Global Mobility.

Goyal said the government is planning to make the setting of charging infra easier by allowing those who set up charging stations to self-monitor and self-regulate. "We want the RWAs and office complexes to have these charging stations. Nobody needs to invest in setting up these stations – auto and battery companies are happy to make the investments," Goyal told the media. On whether the battery swapping model would be encouraged, Goyal said it is a business case that should be left to consumers and companies.

Sensex, Nifty fall up to 1% as sentiments turn negative

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

DOMESTIC equity market failed to sustain Thursday's gain as benchmark indices – BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50 – plummeted up to 1% on Friday. The profit booking took place as investors turned cautious ahead of the Q3FY25 earnings seasons kicking off next week. Further, a weakling rupee and persistent selling by foreign institutional investors (FII) dented sentiments.

The 30-share Sensex declined 720.60 points or 0.90% to settle at 79,223 while the Nifty50 settled in the red at 24,004.75, with a loss of 183.90 points or 0.76%. On Thursday, the two indices had gained nearly 2% each.

"The market concluded the week with a pessimistic note as a sell-on-rally sentiment prevails in the market because of a strong US dollar, high valuation, and investors shift towards a multi-asset strategy," said Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services.

He added that persistent concerns over FII outflows, a depreciating Indian rupee, along with signs of improving core sector print and reduced expectations for rate reductions in 2025, contributed to the mixed investor sentiments. As per NSE data, foreign institutional investors sold (net) shares worth ₹4,227 crore on Friday.

Market experts also feel that uncertainty surrounding US President-elect Donald Trump's economic policies and high valuations may impact the stock market in the short term, particularly in emerging markets.

Sectoral indices close the Friday session on a mixed note. The Bank Nifty index fell sharply as it was pulled down by heavy selling in HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank, which ended lower by 2.53% and 1.94%, respectively. Energy and fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) sectors ended the session in the green, while IT and pharma closed in the red. The broader indices - the Nifty Midcap 100 and Nifty Smallcap 100 indices - ended lower by 0.30% and 0.24%, respectively.

Wipro, HDFC Bank, Tech Mahindra, Adani Ports, and Cipla were the major laggards in the Nifty50 pack. ONGC, Tata Motors, Titan, Nestle India, and SBI Life were the top gainers.

Brigade group to develop housing project in B'luru

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

REALTY major Brigade Group on Friday said it has signed a definitive agreement for a land parcel located on Whitefield-Hoskote Road, Bengaluru. Spanning 20 acres, the residential project will have a saleable area of nearly 2.5 mn Sqft, a gross development value (GDV) of ₹2,700 crore, and a land cost of about ₹630 crore through its subsidiary Ananthay Properties.

Brigade said with its thriving job market, Whitefield continues to attract homebuyers seeking proximity to their workplaces. The seamless connectivity through road, rail, and upcoming Metro extension further enhances Whitefield's appeal. Pavitra Shankar, MD of Brigade Enterprises, stated, "We remain focused on acquiring prime land in key markets to strengthen our land holdings. This project plays a major role in supporting our long-term residential expansion strategy."

South India drives white-collar hiring growth in December 2024

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ Bengaluru

WITH 35% growth, Chennai leads when it comes to white-collar hiring in December 2024, followed by Bengaluru with 21% surge. The Naukri JobSpeak Index saw a 9% year-on-year growth in December, and the report shows South India continues to be a key driver of white-collar employment.

With fresher hiring growing by 14%, Coimbatore emerged as a standout and this was fuelled by a 52% increase in foreign MNC hiring. The report said Hyderabad saw 15% growth, driven by high-skill and fresher roles across sectors like IT, Consumer Durables, and Real Estate.

Pawan Goyal, chief business officer, Naukri.com, said, "India's job market is entering 2025 with vigour, driven by AI/ML growth and creative sectors. The surge in fresher hiring and evolving C-suite roles shows we're transforming into a more dynamic landscape. Traditional sectors like FMCG are embracing this evolution, combining fresh talent with strategic expertise."

AI/ML were primary growth drivers in December 2024 with 36% growth, followed by sectors such as oil & gas (13%), FMCG (12%) and healthcare (12%). Top metro cities collectively posted a 10% growth.

When it comes to fresher hiring, which had majorly been muted through 2024, saw a 6% growth in December 2024, driven by creative, lifestyle and retail sectors like design (39%), beauty & wellness (26%) and consumer durables (19%), respectively.

The FMCG sector achieved 18% growth in fresher hiring during December 2024, and this sector saw the highest monthly increase in fresher recruitment throughout the year.

The report states that 2024 marked significant evolution in executive hiring patterns as seasoned professionals, who have over 16 years of experience, remained constantly in demand. Professionals in the ₹20+ lakh per annum salary bracket (29%) across key sectors also were in demand.

In December, beyond traditional CFO and CTO roles, demand surged for specialised positions like Chief Safety Officers (14%), Chief Legal Officers (12%), and Chief Medical Officers (3%).

ASIANOMICS

CHINA

GOVT GIVES WORKERS PAY BUMP TO BOOST ECONOMY

Millions of government workers across China were given surprise wage hikes this week, as Beijing looks to boost spending to support the slowing economy. On a combined basis, the immediate payout would amount to a one-time shot to the economy of between about $12 billion and nearly $20 billion if all 48 million people counted as public-sector workers collected on the terms described. The last time China announced a nationwide increase in pay for civil servants was in 2015, when the government raised pay for local officials by over 30% as part of an effort to combat corruption and lift consumers' spending power. This time, monthly wages for government employees were increased by an average of about 500 yuan ($68.50), according to people contacted by Reuters or who had posted on social media.

JAPAN

FACTORY ACTIVITY SHRINKS AT SLOWER PACE, PMI SHOWS

Factory activity in Japan shrank at a slower pace in December as declines in production and new orders eased, a private-sector survey showed on Monday, edging closer to stabilisation after recent falls. The final au Jibun Bank Japan manufacturing purchasing managers' index (PMI) increased to 49.6 in December, indicating the softest contraction in three months. The index was slightly higher than 49.5 in the flash reading and 49.0 in November but stayed below the 50.0 threshold that separates growth from contraction for the sixth straight month. The subindex of production shrank for a fourth straight month in December but the contraction was also slower than last month. Manufacturers noted that subdued new orders were the main factor behind the decline in output. New orders contracted for the 19th straight month on subdued demand in both domestic and key overseas markets.

SINGAPORE

ECONOMY GROWS 4% IN 2024

The economy of Singapore grew 4% in 2024, beating forecasts, as per the preliminary data from the Ministry of Trade and Industry. The Gross domestic product (GDP) expanded 4.3% in October-December period, lifting full-year growth to its strongest performance since 2011, excluding the post-COVID-19 pandemic rebound in 2021. Officials in the Southeast Asian country had in November forecast growth for the year at about 3.5%. Manufacturing, a major driver of the country's export-reliant economy, expanded 4.2% in the last quarter, while construction and services grew 5.9% and 4.3%, respectively. In a New Year's message, Singapore Prime Minister Lawrence Wong said most workers had seen their wages outpace inflation and could expect to see their incomes continue to rise. Wong, however, acknowledged that Singapore's economy was not immune from geopolitical tensions such as the wars in the Middle East and Ukraine.

BSNL loses 0.87 mn users to pvt telcos, gains 0.46 mn users in Nov

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

STATE-owned telecom service provider Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) saw a significant drop in customers in November 2024, losing nearly 0.87 million users while gaining only 0.46 million new ones.

This marks the highest customer churn for BSNL since private telecom companies like Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea raised their mobile tariffs up to 25% in July.

There was a major rise in customer migrations to BSNL from other telcos from July to November 2024. However, the migration of customers to BSNL has slowed down recently, possibly due to customer dissatisfaction with their network. By July 2024, only 0.31 million users left BSNL. This number further dropped to 0.26 million in August, 0.28 million in September, and increased to 0.51 million in October 2024. Meanwhile, the number of new subscribers joining BSNL surged significantly in August (2.1 mn), September (1.1 mn), and October (0.7 mn).

As per TRAI data, for the first time since the tariff hike by private telcos, Airtel added 1.9 million users in October 2024. However, Jio, India's largest telco, continued to lose subscribers, losing 3.76 million, while Vi lost 1.97 million customers. BSNL added 0.5 million customers during the same month.

Oil refiners may see fall in profit next financial year

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

INDIAN oil refineries will see their profits decline in the next financial year, according to a report by Fitch Ratings. The main reasons for this decline are lower prices for petroleum products, a surplus of these products in the region, and reduced benefits from fluctuations in global crude oil prices.

This decline is attributed to lower prices for petroleum products, oversupply in the region, and reduced benefits from fluctuations in global crude oil prices.

However, oil marketing companies (OMCs) are expected to maintain healthy marketing margins, thanks to lower Brent crude oil prices and a forecasted 3-4% increase in India's petroleum product demand in financial year 2024-25 (FY25).

"Fitch Ratings expects India's petroleum product demand to rise by 3-4% in the financial year ending March 2025 (FY25), compared with increases of 3% in 7MFY25 and 5% in FY24. This is supported by rising consumer, industrial and infrastructure demand… The growth in petroleum product demand is likely to be broad-based, with diesel and petrol accounting for the majority," reads the report.

The report also noted that India's total gas consumption is expected to increase by around 10% in the financial year 2025 (FY25), driven by growing demand from key sectors and government policies promoting the use of cleaner fuels.

Natural gas production in India is expected to grow at a low single-digit rate in FY25, supported by development projects on the western and eastern coasts. However, this growth rate is slower than the 9% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) seen between FY21 and FY24.

Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) imports are expected to increase by around 20% in FY25, driven by growing demand and lower international gas prices. This will make gas more affordable for price-sensitive sectors.

Kotak Bank COO Nagnur quits, second exit after Vaswani joined as chief executive

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK, which is under serious regulatory curbs since April last year for not fortifying its tech-architecture and has been banned from any online/mobile app-based services, has said Milind Nagnur, its chief technology officer who is also its chief operating officer, has resigned from the bank.

This is the second senior level resignations from the bank after the new CEO, Ashok Vaswani, was chosen by the RBI in January 2024 to replace the founder Uday Kotak who was forced to resign in October 2023, 15 months ahead of his term was to end.

Early May last year, KVS Manian, who was with the bank since the beginning and a right hand of Uday Kotak, had called it quits with immediate effect and he joined the Federal Bank as CEO from September.

In an exchange filing on Friday, the bank said Nagnur's resignation letter dated January 3 says his last day at the bank will be February 15. An interim structure has been put in place at the bank to ensure smooth functioning, it added.

Nagnur, who cited personal reasons for his departure, has said in the resignation that he planned to move back to the US to care for family members.

In April 2024, the Reserve Bank had barred the bank from onboarding new customers through its online and mobile banking channels, as well as from issuing fresh credit cards. The regulator had observed "serious deficiencies and non-compliances" for more than a year in the bank's IT inventory and user access management, among other things.

EXPRESS READ

Rupee falls 4 paise to record low of 85.79/USD

NEW DELHI: Rupee fell 4 paise to close at record low of 85.79 against dollar on Friday, as strong dollar demand from importers and muted trend in domestic equities weighed on investors' sentiments. Forex traders said dollar gained against most currencies during 2024 and continued to remain strong in 2025. *ENS*

IIFL Fin to raise $400 mn from global bond sale

MUMBAI: Leading non-banking firm IIFL Finance is in the overseas debt market to raise $300-400 million, as part of its planned $1 billion debt raising plan. As per sources, the company is holding roadshows in New York, London, Singapore and Hong Kong currently and the issue is likely to close on Friday night. *ENS*

Demand for CNG vehicles soars in 2024 due to stricter emission norms

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

DEMAND for CNG-powered cars rose sharply in 2024 even as total passenger vehicles (PV) grew by less than 5% during the calendar year. Partho Banerjee, senior executive officer of marketing and sales at Maruti Suzuki India (MSIL) said they sold 453,000 units in the period of April-December, a growth of 26.3% over 2023.

"In terms of the CNG penetration, the contribution has now increased to 38.7%. During the same period last year, it used to be 31.4%, indicating a growth of nearly 7.3%," added Banerjee. In CY24, CNG sales were over 5.76 lakh units for MSIL. The carmaker's total PV sales in 2024 stood at 17.91 lakh units, up by 2.7% year-on-year.

Rohan Kanwar Gupta, vice President & sector head, corporate ratings at ICRA said improving CNG availability and favourable operating economics aided by its superior mileage, have aided an increase in the adoption pace of the powertrain over the past few years (17% in H1 CY24).

Gupta added that the launch of various variants by leading OEMs has also enhanced the options available to the buyers and has in turn further aided demand for CNG vehicles. "Stricter emission norms and restrictions on polluting vehicles are expected to result in a continuation of a general shift towards cleaner vehicles over the medium term, thereby leading to an increase in adoption of CNG, hybrid and EV powertrains," he said.

For Hyundai Motor India (HMIL), CNG vehicles contributed 13.1% of its domestic sales in CY24. Hyundai sold 605,433 units in CY 2024, up 0.6% when compared to CY 2023 sales.

. "The introduction of our innovative Hy-CNG Duo technology in 2024 resonated well with buyers, resulting in the highest CNG contribution of 13.1% to HMIL's domestic sales in CY24, as against 10.4% in CY23," said Tarun Garg, whole-time director and COO at HMIL.

Similarly, Tata Motors saw a surge in demand for CNG-powered vehicles. "We registered a 77% growth in our CNG volumes, selling over 120,000 CNG vehicles in CY24," said Shailesh Chandra, managing director of Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Ltd. Contrary to this growth, Tata Motors electric vehicle sales grew by just 6% year-on-year to 16,119 in the October-December quarter.

PUBLIC NOTICE

ICICI Bank | Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA).
A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Suman Palle/ Aimit Lepcha/ Vasanthpura Main Road B 102 Suprabhat Shreem Breeze Bangalore, Bengaluru Urban Karnataka Karnataka Bangalore- 560061/ LBHYD00005966662/ LBHYD00005998412	Schedule "A" Property (The Premises On Which The Building Is Raised) All That Piece And Parcel Of Total Admeasuring Of 8661.00 Sq.yards Or 7241.46 Sq.mtrs., In Survey No.111/ Al Part, 112/AA1 Part & 112/A3/1 Part, Situated At Mokila Village, Mokila Grampanchayath, Shankarpally Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State And Bounded As Follows: North: Land Of Bharath Kumar & Others. South: Land Of Aparna Reddy. East: Land Of Nikhila Contructions & Others. West: 40 Feet Wide Road. Schedule "B" Property (The Property Hereby Sold To The Purchaser) All That The Semi-Finished Residential Flat No.G22 On Ground Floor With A Super Built-Up Area Of 1263 Sq.ft (Carpet Area- 827, Walls- 103, Balconies-81, Common Area-252) And 1 Car Parting Comprising An Area Of 90 Sq. Ft, In The Multi-Storied Residential Apartment Complex Known As Vivanta Central Court" In Survey No.111/S1 Part, 112/AA1 Part & 112/A3/1 Part, Situated At Mokila Village, Mokila Grampanchayath, Shankarpally Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Telangana State, Together With The Undivided Share Of Land Equivalent To 52.0 Sq.yds Out Of The Schedule "A" Property And The Apartment Is Bounded By: North: Open To Sky South: Open To Sky East: Corridor West: Open To Sky	22-11-2024 Rs. 49,35,488.02/-	30/10/ 2024

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: January 04, 2025
Place: Bangalore

Sincerely, Authorised Signatory
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client **Sri. Rajashekar** is entered Sale agreement and he had original Sale deed of property bearing Sy.No.43/2 measuring 3 Acre 13 Guntas situated at Basavenahalli Village, Solur Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Ramangar District. More fully described in the schedule hereunder. Our client represented that, 01/01/2025 while travelling from nelamangala to Bangalore at nelamangala bus stop he lost/misplaced the original Sale deed dated 21/04/1965 registered document No.370/1965-1966 registered at Magadi sub Registrar, pertaining to the schedule property. Hence our client had lodged a complaint intimating the loss of the said original sale deed with the Jurisdictional Police Station Nelamangala on 2/01/2025. Any person or persons finding the original Sale deed may please to handover the same either to the undersigned, if any person claiming any rights, title or interest based on the said Sale deed should write the undersigned with in 15 days of this public notice.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing property bearing Sy.No.43/2 measuring 3 Acre 13 Guntas situated at Basavenahalli Village, Solur Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Ramangar Distrrict. and bounded on the:

East by : Kuduru Hanumanthaiah's property
West by : Munivenkatappa's property,
North by : Government oni
South by: Donne Maraiah's Property

SOMASHEKARA. K.S, Advocate
Office: G-1, Tasker Park Apts, #10, Park Road, Tasker Town, Bengaluru- 560051.
Date:03-01-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The GENERAL PUBLIC are hereby informed that my Clients Sri. Panchakshari Hiremath S/o. Mallayya Hiremath and Sri.SURESH R., S/o.R.Venkatadri Naidu Residing at S.L.V. Homes, Flat No: 201 2nd Floor, 28/B, 26th Cross, 18th Main, H.S.R.Layout, BANGALORE-560102 has lost the original SALE DEED dated 30.01.1981 registered with vide Document No:3707-1980/81 executed by Smt. MUNINANJAMMA and Sri. ALLELLEPPA in favour of Sri. R. PRAKASH pertaining to the below mentioned SCHEDULE PROPERTY. The said documents not in the possession of my client and the same has been intimated to the Jurisdictional Police. Whoever is in possession of the same is hereby requested to hand over it to the below mentioned address. If anyone deals with such persons on the SCHEDULE PROPERTY shall be doing so at his/her own risk and consequences and the same shall not be binding on my Client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of property bearing Katha No.189, Property No.130/3, situated at Channasandra Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Presently within the limits of BBMP.In all measuring 2178 SQFT.AND BOUNDED ON

East By : Property belongs to Balakrishna
West By : Road
North By: Passage
South By: Property belongs to Siddalingappa

Sri. B.B. SUDHIR, Advocate
Bangalore-560038. Mob:98450 22593

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **BHARATHI GAURAV W/o GAURAV U.T,** Residing at #152/6, Bidiru Mela Raste, Daffodil Margh, Karishma Hills, Subramanyapura, Bangalore South, Bengaluru - 560061.

Our client has lost the Original Registered Sale Deed bearing Doc. No. KEN-1-3039/1995-96 Date : 08.06.1995 / 06.11.1995 Vol.1291, Pages 163-168 registered in the Office of the Sub-Registrar Kengeri, Bangalore in respect of the All that piece and parcel of the bearing No. 152/6, Khatha No. 388/48/3, Sy.No. 48/3, measuring East to West 119.10 ft and North to South 80ft, in all 9528 Sq.ft or measuring 8.3/4 guntas Situated at Bidiru Mela Raste, Daffodil Margh, Karishma Hills, Turahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Road,
West by : Property belonging to C.M.Prasad,
North by : Remaining portion of land in Sy.No. 48/3,
South by : Property belonging to K.Govindappa.

The said property is in possession of **BHARATHI GAURAV** she is the absolute owner and is absolutely free from any encumbrance whatsoever.

My Client had lost the above mentioned Sale deeds & Inspite of several efforts the Original Sale deed he has not found and he has lodged the police complaint through online dated 02.01.2025 Lost Report No. 1410860/2025.

If any person found or anyone having any claim or interest over the said property, he/she is requested to forward their claims along with the relevant documents to us within 07 days of this public notice. If we do not receive any claim from any person within 07 days, it will be strictly presumed that this property is absolutely free from any claim or encumbrance and no one has any claim over this property and if any One found the above deed kindly contact below mentioned.

PREMA B DUBAE
FFD VI, 4th Floor, Sampoorna Chambers, Vasavi Temple Road, V.V. Puram, Bengaluru-560004. 080-42053588 / 080-42296969

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Tender Notice No. : DRMENGGRNC-01-03-2025. Divisional Railway Manager (Engg), Ranchi-834003 for & on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following work. **Sl. No., Notice No. & Name of work** are as follows : **1. DRMENGGRNC-01-2025** : Supply & Loading into Railway wagons/hoppers 107745cum of 50 mm size machine crushed hard stone track ballast at Bakudih/Barharwa/Pinargaria/Pakur/ Rajgram/Taljhari quarry siding for the jurisdiction of Ranchi Division (Measurement will be done at destination). **Tender Value :** ₹ 15,73,05,545.10. **EMD Value :** ₹ 9,36,500/-. **2. DRMENGGRNC-02-2025.** Raising and extension of existing Rail level PF No. 2 to high level PF of size 450 m x 8 m at Gautamdhara station. **Tender Value :** ₹ 3,68,12,148.97. **EMD Value :** ₹ 3,34,100/-. **3. DRMENGGRNC-03-2025.** (i) Ranchi Division - TRR (P) - 30.904 Tkm (ii) Hatia-Orga - TTR (TWS+WCMSC) - 20 sets, Muri-Barkakana- TTR (TWS+WCMSC) -8 sets & Muri-Hatia - TTR (TWS+WCMSC) - 57 sets. (Total=85 sets) in Ranchi Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 4,51,90,377.59. **EMD Value :** ₹ 3,76,000/-. **Tender Closing date & time:** 27.01.2025 at 15.00 hrs. for each. Tenderers can visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in** for online tendering. **(PR-977)**

POOMPUHAR SHIPPING CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Tamilnadu Enterprise)
692, Anna Salai, IV[th] Floor, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035, India
Telephone No. : 044 - 24330505 / 807, Fax : 91-44-24344593 /24335706,
E-mail : pscship@gmail.com CIN : U63090TN1974PLC006596

GLOBAL E-TENDER INVITING NOTICE

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER FOR SHORT TERM TIME CHARTERING OF ONE SELF-TRIMMING PANAMAX/KAMSARMAX GEARLESS (OR WITH GEARS CONSIDERED AS GEARLESS) VESSEL WITH CAPACITY OF ABOUT 68,000 TO 86,000 DWT ON ACCOUNT OF NTECL.

E-tenders are invited from the Ship owners / disponent owners for the following specification:

Tender Number	Lay Days	Period	Tender Download start date	Bid Submission end date	Tender opening Date
PSC/CHARTERING/ 002/2024-25., Dt 31.12.2024	24.01.2025 to 04.02.2025	3 Month + 3 Month +/- 10 days choption	03.01.2025 at 1600 hours	21.01.2025 at 1200 hours	21.01.2025 at 1600 hours

Tender document is available in e-tendering web portal https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app and www.tamilship.com at free of cost. Prospective bidders are advised to refer for https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app specific important details and upload their bid. The conditions / requirement mentioned in the website shall be met out by the bidders. This advertisement is an invitation for bid only. The details given in the website are comprehensive. Tender Opening Venue: Poompuhar Shipping Corporation Limited, Head Office, No. 692, Anna Salai, MHU Complex - 4th Floor, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035.

Further, all communications / corrigendums will be updated through https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app only.

DIPR/35/TENDER/2025 **GENERAL MANAGER (OPS)**

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE
Every Friday with
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED

(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Two Cover System) (Through KPP Portal Only)

KPCL invites tenders through KPP Portal: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from Class-III / Class-IV and above contractor registered in KPWD for the following works. **1). KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT1994/CALL-2, Date: 28.12.2024** Development / Improvement works to garden at surrounding area of Administrative building at RTPS. Amount put to tender: **Rs. 41.66Lakhs (Excluding GST).** Work completion period: **Four (04) Months. 2). KPCL/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT2412/CALL-2, Date: 30.12.2024(Reserved for Scheduled Caste).** Civil connected works of UCB-4 under R&M works - construction of new additional Control room adjacent to existing PLC Control room for installation of PLC SCADA HMI stations and new UPS systems and providing false ceiling for existing PLC Control room at RTPS. Amount put to tender: **Rs. 8.429 Lakhs (Excluding GST).** Work completion period: **Three (03) Months. 3). KPCL/2024-25/OW/ WORK_INDENT2444, Date: 30.12.2024** Arresting leakages from Raw water pipeline beside Ware house No. 2 compound wall towards CWPH-7 and connected works at RTPS. Amount put to tender: **Rs.8.22 Lakhs (Excluding GST).** Work completion period: **Two (02) Months.**

Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (PCM-2) RTPS, KPCL, Shaktinagar-584170, Raichur District.** Mobile No.: **94495 96582.** Website: **https//:kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -1

BSNL Building 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru- 560 001

O.A. No. 1085/2019

Between:HDFC Bank Limited. ...Applicant

And:

Mr. Ajith Kumar N ...Defendant

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To: **1. Mr Ajith Kumar N.** S/o. Mr. Nagaraja, Residing at : Villa No. 19-A, Plot No. 33, Artha Reveira, Marsur Gate, Chandapura Road, Bangalore - 562 106.

And also available at : 1. Mr Ajith Kumar N. Working as a Regional Manager at M/s Trolux Realtech Private Limited, No. 339/ 2, 1st Floor, Marsur Gate, Anekal Main Road, Chandapura, Bangalore - 562 106. ...Defendants

WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an application Under Section 19, of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions act, 1993, against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.27,50,442.84** (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakhs Fifty Thousand Four Hundred and Forty Two and Paise Eighty Four Only) amount together with current and future interest, cost and other relief's.

You the above mentioned Defendants are required to appear before the Tribunal in person or through your counsel and produce relevant documents in your defense and show cause on **14/02/2025 at 10:30 a.m.** as to why the relief's prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of nonappearance, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal this the **04.12. 2024.**

By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal - I Bangalore

Advocate for the Applicant
J.S. Advocates & Legal Consultants
Advocates & Solicitors
#56/1-1, Opp. to Union Bank of India, 4th Main, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram West, Bengaluru - 560 055.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I OF KARNTAKA

BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.

Original Application No. 480/2024

BETWEEN:
Central Bank of India ..... Applicant Bank

AND

M/s. Sree Skanda Granites & Others .... Defendants

SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993

To
1) M/s. Sree Skanda Granites
Represented by its partners,
1) Sri S.K. Raj Kumar,
2) Smt. Indu Raj Kumar
55, Commercial Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-01.
Also at : Survey No. 81/4, Andgova Village, Somwarpet Taluk, Coorg District, Karnataka.

2) Sri S.K. Raj Kumar
55, Commercial Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-01.
Also at : Survey No. 81/4, Andgova Village, Somwarpet Taluk, Coorg District, Karnataka.

3) Smt. Indu Raj Kumar
55, Commercial Street, Shivajinagar, Bangalore-01.
Also at : Survey No. 81/4, Andgova Village, Somwarpet Taluk, Coorg District, Karnataka.

1. Whereas the Applicant Bank has instituted an application U/s. 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against you for the recovery of sum of **Rs. 1,29,94,322.82** mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

2. The above mentioned Defendants are hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an advocate or duly authorized agent in suport of your defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on **20.03.2025 at 10.30 AM** (forenoon) as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

3. Take notice that, in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal on this the 20.12.2024.

Registrar,
Debts Recovery Tribunal-I

IN THE HON'BLE LXXXIX ADDITIONAL COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BENGALURU [COMMERCIAL COURT] CCH 90

COM-OS No: 626 OF 2024

Canara Bank Gavipuram Extention Branch #59/10 Basappa Layout, Gavipuram Extension Branch Represented by its Chief Manager M Yadavya E-mail ID: cb0439@canarabank.com Telephone No 08022447547 Mobile No 9441931818 ...Plaintiff

Vs 1.Sangeetha, W/o Narendra J No. 57, 2nd Cross Anubha Nagar, Bangalore 560062 Mobile: 9449120652
2. Sangeetha Hardware Represented by its Proprietor Sangeetha W/o Narendra J #87, Lakkappa Complex, Opposite to Vijaya Bank Moodalapalya, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Bangalore 560072 Mobile No. 9449120652 E-mail ID: narendra9080@gmail.com ...Defendants

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC

Sangeetha, W/o Narendra J, No. 57, 2nd Cross, Anubha Nagar, Bangalore 560062 Mobile: 9449120652
Sangeetha Hardware Represented by its Proprietor Sangeetha W/o Narendra J, #87, Lakkappa Complex, Opposite to Vijaya Bank, Moodalapalya, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Bangalore 560072 Mobile No. 9449120652 E-mail ID: narendra9080@gmail.com

Whereas the plaintiff has filed the above suit against the defendant for recovery of Bank loan for an amount of Rs.12,15,971/- towards loan acccunt 04397790001229 along with interest at the rate of 10.65% PA upto the date of payment.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Court person or through advocate on **18/01/2025 at 11 AM** to answer the queries falling which the matter will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on the day of 27th day of November 2024

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Senior Sheristedar
Commercial Court unit
City Civil Court, Bangalore

Advocate for Plaintiff: RAJVIN LAW, B RAJASHREE, RAJESH S. NAVEEN B M
No.101/45, Venkatadri 1st Floor, 4th Cross, Hanumanthanagar, Bengaluru-560019 Mobile 9632462798

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE SMALL CAUSE COURT AT BENGALURU

S.C.NO. 649/2023

BETWEEN:
M/s Canara Bank
N.R.Road Branch,
New City Complex Market, 3rd Floor, N R Road,Bangalore-560002
Represented by its chief manager
Mr. Abhishekh Srivastava
Aged About 36 Years
And ....PLAINTIFF
Mr. Prakash
....DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20(1) OF CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE,1908

1. Mr. Prakash S/o Karakaiah,
No.27, 16th Cross, Malagala, Nagarbhavi 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560091.
M.No.9535209584.

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff instituted a suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 1,71,028.26/- (Rupees One lakh Seventy One Thousand Twenty Eight And And Paisa Twenty Six Only)** as on **31/08/2022,** Along with current and further interest @ **10.05% p.a.,** From **31.08.2022** to till the date of realization on the footing of compound monthly rest basis.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court on **06/02/2025 at 11.00 AM** in person or through the Advocate/Pleader to Answer the question to the same. Failing which the suit will be heard and determined as ex-parte.

Given under my hand with the seal of this court, on **12th day of July 2024.**

By the Order of the Court
Sd/- Assistant Registrar
Small causes court, Bangalore.

Padmashree, Advocate for plaintiff
No.29,3rd Cross, Vinayaka layout, Bhoopasandra, Bangalore -560094.

HDB Financial Services Ltd.

Registered office:- Radhika, 2nd Floor, Law Garden Road, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009.
Contact Address:- HDB Financial Services Limited., No.195/38, 1st Floor HDFC Building, 10th Cross Road, HDFC Building Wilson Garden, Bangalore-560027, and also at; HDB Financial Services Limited., Zenith House, Opposite Race Course, Mahalakshmi, Mumbai-400034.

DEMAND NOTICE

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE U/S 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the Overdraft facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose facility account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses but they have been returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No. & Product	Name of Borrowers, Co-borrowers, Mortgagors	O/s. As per 13(2) Notice	NPA Date	Notice Date
1	4715481 & 12308163	**1. Om Shakthi Electricals,** No.290/224, Chairman Layout, Banaswadi Main Road, Banasawadi, Near Banaswadi Fire Station, Bangalore-560043, Karnataka. And also at; No.6, Khatha No.13/2/6 Property No.13/2, Horamavu Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore-560043. **2. Vanitha S,** No.6, Old No.584, 1st Cross, Lakshmaiah Layout Dodda Banasawadi, Horamavu Kalayan Nagar Post, Near Gandhi Bangalore-560043, Karnataka. **3. K.Saravanan,** No.6, Old No.584, 1st Cross, Lakshmaiah Layout, Dodda Banasawadi, Horamavu Kalyan Nagar Post, Near Gandhi, Bangalore-560043, Karnataka.	Rs. 19,91,882.50	03-12-2024	16-12-2024

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURITIES-I:- All that Piece and Parcel of Property being Eastern Portion of Site No.6, Khatha No.13/2/6 Property No.13/2, Horamavu Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Measuring East to West 15 Feet and North to South 40 Totally Measuring 600 Sq.Ft. together with a Building constructed thereon. **North:** Private Property, **South:** 25 Feet Road, **East:** Site No.5, **West:** Remaining Western Portion of same Site No.6

The above borrowers and /or their guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) (wherever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of said 60 days under sub-Section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.

Further more, this is to bring to your attention that under Section 13 (8) of the SARFAESI Act, in case our dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by us are tendered at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured asset shall not be sold or transferred by us, and no further step shall be taken by us for transfer or sale of that secured asset.

Date: 03-01-2025, Place: Bangalore — Sd/- Authorised Officer, HDB Financial Services Ltd.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, No.4 BRLBC Division, Bhadravathi.

No:EE/KNNL/BDN-4/TA/PB-1/4701 Bhadra/ Tender Notification No:15/ 2024-25: Dated: 01.01.2025

Short Term Tender Notification (Through E-Procurement Portal only)

Percentage Tenders by e-procurement portal in the prescribed form is invited by the undersigned on behalf of Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore from the eligible Contractor under the Head of Account 4701 Bhadra. The No. of works is 03. The approximate cost of amount put to tender varies from **Rs.25.30 Lakhs and Rs.79.57 Lakhs.** The amount of EMD is **Rs.25,500/- and Rs.80,000/-** (by kpp portal) contactors can access and submission of completed e-tendering documents from **03.01.2025 to 13.01.2025 upto 17.30 hours** in the website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For Sl No.1 Financial Bid will be opened on **14.01.2025** and for Sl No.2 & 3 Technical Bid will be opened on **14.01.2025 at 17.30 hours** and For Sl No. 2 & 3 Financial Bid will be opened on after obtaining approval of technical bid from competent authority. Stipulated period for the completion of works 04 Months (Including monsoon). For more conditions and details visit website **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** OR at undersigned in all working days during office hours on telephone No. 8660573513.

DIPR/SMG/No-23-01/ zenkar/2024-25

Sd/-
Executive Engineer. KNNL, No.4, BRLBC Division, Bhadravathi.

Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA)

Lenin Center, Governerpet, Vijayawada – 520002 (A.P.)

E Procurement Tender Notice

S.No	NIT Number	Name of the Work
1	NIT No. 58/ PROC/MAU61-US0/INFR(OTH)/ 36/2024-IFR1/3A Dt.03.01.2025	APCRDA invites the bids for the work WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Development Program related to "Construction of Roads, Drains, Water Supply, Sewerage, utility Ducts for Power & ICT, Reuse waterline & Avenue Plantation, compatible with trunk infrastructure in Layouts for Land Pooling Schemes for Nelapadu, Kondamaraiupalem and Rayapudi (Parts) in Zone-3A Area in Amaravati Capital City, Andhra Pradesh on Lump sum contract (% Percentage Tender) including DLP of 2 Years" **Estimate Cost: Rs.505.53 Crores**
2	NIT No. 59/ PROC/MAU61-US0/INFR(OTH)/ 39/2024-IFR1/3B Dt.03.01.2025	APCRDA invites the bids for the works WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Development Program related to "Construction of Roads, Drains, Water Supply, Sewerage, utility Ducts for Power & ICT, Reuse waterline & Avenue Plantation, compatible with trunk infrastructure in Layouts for Land Pooling Schemes for Nelapadu, Sakhamuru (Parts) in Zone-3B Area in Amaravati Capital City, Andhra Pradesh on Lump sum contract (% Percentage Tender) including DLP of 2 Years" **Estimate Cost: Rs.420.65 Crores**
3	NIT No. 60/ PROC/MAU61-US0/HB(BGV14/ 2024-HB Dt.03.01.2025	Name of the work: WORLD BANK & ADB financed Amaravati Capital City Development Program related to "Completion of balance works viz., Architectural finishes, Internal & External Electrical, Plumbing & Sanitary fixtures, Firefighting provisions, Lifts, DG, HVAC, Security Systems, External Development & Landscaping etc., for Housing of Gazetted Officers Type-I & II, Class IV consisting of a total of 1440 Apartment units in 14 towers of (S+12) Floors Pattern with a BUA of 27,24,080 Sft with Sub-structure, R.C. wall Super Structure using Shear Wall technique and Aluminum Form work in Amaravati Govt., Complex, Andhra Pradesh on Lumpsum Contract (% percentage tender) including DLP of 2 years" **Est. Cost - Rs.584.54 Crores**

The above bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from 04.01.2025 to 27.01.2025 upto 14:00 Hrs. Due date for submission of Bid 27.01.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs, Technical bid opening 27.01.2025@16.00 Hrs. For further details please refer to www.apeprocurement.gov.in and www.crda. ap.gov.in. Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA, Vijayawada

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Home Loan Centre, HSR Layout
No.241, 19th Main Road 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru-560 102.
Mob No. 9972361099, Email: racpc.hsr@sbi.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE

(UNDER SUB SECTION (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS & ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (HEREINAFTER CALLED ACT)

At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its branch mentioned thereon, Bengaluru. The relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non-Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrower in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1. Name and address of the Borrowers: **Smt. Anusuya A,** W/o. Manjunath N, 418/3, Yelahanka Satellite Town, A Sector, Yelahanka, Bengaluru-560 106. Also at:- KhaneshumariKhatha No. 52/69/1, Adarsha College Road, Near Chapparakallu Bus Stop, Kundana Grama Paanchayat, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru-562 110.
Outstanding Loan Amount: **Rs.26,44,081/-** (Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Forty Four Thousand and Eighty One only) as on 09.09.2024 plus interest at contractual rate together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc.
Schedule of Property Mortgaged: All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Kaneshumari No.69/1, Katha No.52/69/1, e-property No.150302050001200990 measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 30 feet situated at Chinnakempana Halli, Kundana Grama Panchayath, Kundana Hobli, DevanaHalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, with building thereon and bounded on East by: Property belonging to Sri. N. Manjunath, West by: Road, North by: Property belonging to Sri. N. Manjunath and South by: Others Property.
Name of the Branch: Electronic City **Account No:65259591947**
Dateof NPA: 27.04.2024 **Demand Notice Date:10.09.2024**

2. Name and address of the Borrowers: **Mr. Nandikolla Naveen,** S/o. Nandikolla Satyanarayana, No. 527, 2nd Floor, 14th Street, Lane-1, HMT Swarapuri Colony, Near HMT Hall, Hyderabad, Miyapur- 500 049. Telangana.Also, at: - ii. 4-68/6, Ganesh Nagar, Opp CCR School, Kodad,Nalgondi- 508 206. Telangana.iii. Emp No.: 280025, Department: IT, Designation: Technical Leader, Wipro Ltd, No. 203, 115/1, ISB Road, Nanakramguda, Financial Dist, Wipro Circle, Hyderabad- 500 032.iv. "MIDHILA DELUXE" Apartment, Flat No. 409, Maruthi Nagar, Kogilu Village Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore - 560 064.
Outstanding Loan Amount: **Rs. 43,75,668/-** (Rupees Forty Three Lakhs Seventy Five Thousand Six Hundred and Sixty Eight only) as on 12.11.2024. plus interest at contractual rate together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc.
Schedule of Property Mortgaged: Schedule of Property Mortgaged: SCHEDULE "A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Nos. 5,6,7,8,9,14,15,22,23,24,16,17,18,19, 20,21, 25A,26,27 and 28 BBMP Katha No. 1324/866/5, Situated at Maruthi Nagar, Kogilu Village Road, Yelahanka, Bangalore North Measuring East to West 183.5 + 165.3/2 Feet and North to South 223 + 147/2 Feet and bounded on the: East by: Private Property, West by: Road, North by: Road and Maruthi Nagar Housing Board Layout and South by: Property belonging to Smt. Vijayamma.
SCHEDULE "B" PROPERTY: 333.2 Square Feet undivided right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' Property.
SCHEDULE "C" APARTMENT PROPERTY: (SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS SALE DEED): A Two Bed Room Apartment bearing No. 409 Situated on Fourth Floor in Building known as "MIDHILA DELUXE" constructed on the Schedule- A Property with a super built up area of 1190 sft having R.C.C. Roofing, Vitrified Flooring, Main Door and shutter decorative moulded, made of quality hard wood (both sides teak finish), Wood Windows / internal Flush Doors with Sal wood frames with proportionate share in common areas, lobbies, passages, lifts, staircase, etc., with electricity, water and sanitary connection with all appurtenances whatsoever, with Common use of approach to car park area and staircase and bounded on the: East by: Open to sky, West by: Flat No. 407, North by: Flat No. 408 and South by: Flat No. 410. Standing in the name of Mr. Nandikolla Naveen, S/o. Nandikolla Satyanarayana
Name of the Branch: PBB Indiranagar **Account No:38517462731**
Dateof NPA:05.10.2024 **Demand Notice Date: 13.11.2024**

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured asset detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.
The Bank reserves its rights to call upon you to repay the liabilities that may arise under the outstanding Bills Discounted, Bank Guarantees and Letter of Credit issued and established on your behalf as well as other contingent liabilities.
Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act whereunder you can tender the entire amount of outstanding dues together with all costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank only till the date of publication of the notice for sale of the secured asset(s) by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty. Please also note that if the entire amount of outstanding dues together with the costs, charges and expenses incurred by the Bank is not tendered before publication of notice for sale of the secured assets by public auction, by inviting quotations, tender from public or by private treaty, you may not be entitled to redeem the secured asset(s).
This notice is without prejudice to the Bank's right to initiate such other actions or legal proceedings, as it deems necessary under any other applicable provisions of Law.

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Place:Bengaluru
Date: 02.01.2025
State Bank of India
Home Loan Centre , HSR Layout Branch BENGALURU

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Retail Assets Central Processing Centre, Yelahanka(18994)
No.5/1, Prestige Star Building,I Floor, Ring Road, Near Mother Dairy Yelahanka Newtown, Bengaluru-560065
Tel:080-29720743/45/49, Email ID:sbi.18994@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE

Under Rule - 8 (1) (For immovable property)

A/c No.HL 39614079385

WHEREAS, The Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, RACPC, Yelahanka, Bengaluru under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated **20.09.2024** calling upon the borrowers **Sri.G.Krishna** S/o Sri.P.Govinda Raj and **Smt.K.Sasireka** W/o Sri.G.Krishna to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.71,63,984/-** (Rupees Seventy One Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Four Only) as on 19.09.2024 with future interest at contractual rate from 20.09.2024 together with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc., within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers/mortgagers having failed to repay the amount as mentioned in the Demand Notice, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/mortgagers and the public in general that the undersigned, being the Authorised Officer of the State Bank of India, RACPC, Yelahanka, Bengaluru has taken possession of the property, described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules 2002, **on 02.01.2025.**

The borrowers/mortgagers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs.73,75,316/-** (Rupees Seventy Three Lakh Seventy Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixteen Only) as on 31.12.2024 and further interest at contractual rate from 01.01.2025 with incidental expenses, costs, charges etc thereon.

Theborrowers/mortgager's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel

Hockey Olympian and coach Jagbir suffers heart attack

Former India forward and hockey coach Jagbir Singh on Friday was rushed to the hospital, where he suffered a massive heart attack during a procedure. The two-time Olympian is currently with Team Gonasika in Hockey India League. He played for India between 1985 and 1996, winning a bronze medal in the 1986 Asian Games and a silver in the 1990 edition.

Pant slows down & with it his trademark impact

Curbing instincts, batter prolonged stay at the crease but runs dried up

GOMESH S @ Sydney

Rishabh Pant in action | PTI

RISHABH Pant was lying down in the middle of Sydney Cricket Ground. He was being attended to by the physio in front of the sellout record crowd on day one of the fifth and final Test between India and Australia on Friday. The Indian keeper-batter had been hit twice off Australia captain Pat Cummins' bowling on consecutive deliveries in the 49th over. The first one was a short delivery that he tried to duck and got hit on the shoulder and the second one hit him in the abdomen. Pant batting on 26 off 74 balls at that time was visibly in pain and had no choice but to call for some medical attention.

It had been that kind of a day for the 27-year-old. He was first hit in the back arm while trying to defend Mitchell Starc and then came the blow to the helmet from the pacer. It was not the usual Pant who had come to Australia twice before and dominated them in such a way that fans wrote songs about it. This was different. He had been struggling to spend some time in the middle. The underlying issue that had largely gone unaddressed is that he had come into bat much earlier than he did in the previous tours thanks to multiple top-order collapses. But the focus was more on how he had been getting out. He has been sticking to his unorthodox methods while trying to take the game head-on and falling short. And it had come at a cost.

After the kind of dismissals, he had in Melbourne — one trying to scoop Scott Boland and the other a slog off Travis Head — Rohit Sharma had a message for Pant - he has to figure out what method works for him and what is required of him for the team in a certain situation. Although the captain did admit that it is hard to communicate when Pant is sticking to a method that has brought him all the success, the keeper-batter seemed to have gotten the message. From the time he walked out to bat on Friday, Pant was hell-bent on one thing — do not do something that leads to his downfall at the wrong time. Pant's first boundary came when Cummins strayed on the pads when he had faced seven deliveries. A long while later, he hit the second with a cut off Starc. By that time, he had already faced 50 balls. He did try to charge Cummins but bottom-edged the ball that almost backspinned on its way towards the stumps. That was that. Pant seemed firm on curbing his natural instincts.

It made sense in the context of things with the pitch having lush grass cover and the ball seaming around even during the second session. So, Pant decided to defend everything that came his way until something was on the slot. The only other occasion where he charged at a bowler was against debutant Beau Webster and smashed him into the stands.

In Sydney, it was a case of asking Pant to play sensibly and he was actually doing that. Yet, it made one wonder how much it would have worked and how quickly Pant could have turned things around on a surface like this by taking on the Australian bowlers rather than letting someone like Webster bowl at less than two runs per over.

To understand the nature of the innings, here is a fact. It was the first time Pant scored 40 or more in a Test innings with a strike rate that is less than 46. On Friday, he batted at 40.81. The last and only time he batted at a strike rate lower than 50 and scored a fifty was at The Oval against England in 2021. In fact, the only time he played more balls than Friday (98) and batted at a lower strike rate was in the second innings of Melbourne. He faced 104 balls and scored 30 at 28.84.

However, all everyone remembered was how he got out on the final day. To be fair it was the dismissal that triggered the collapse. Here, it was different. "In this inning, I was not in a frame of mind where I wanted to take charge of the game. Because the wicket was doing too much and the kind of situation we were in. And while playing inside I felt like I could play a little bit of defensive cricket. Whatever the game asked me to do on that given day, that's what I tried to do and that was the mindset," Pant said after the day's play. "I would say there might be a 50-50 chance which I could have taken early on in this innings but sometimes you have to play more secure cricket, especially the way the wicket was behaving, we knew that if we give one more wicket here we might lose 2-3 in quick succession."

The bottom line, however, is whether it bore fruit. Pant batted for 98 balls for a 40 before getting out trying to pull Boland. How this match plays out is yet to be seen but more importantly, India need to figure out how to make the most of Pant the Test batter.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Edged & gone again: Kohli's horror run

TNIE@ BORDER-GAVASKAR TROPHY
GOMESH S
SYDNEY

Virat Kohli (R) reacts after being dismissed by pacer Scott Boland on Friday | PTI

IT could well have happened on the very first delivery he faced. Virat Kohli had entered a mixed reception at a packed Sydney Cricket Ground on Friday morning. It started with a bit of a boo before the applause kicked in. Kohli, walking in at the fall of Yashasvi Jaiswal for 10, was already under immense pressure. Rohit Sharma, the other senior batter and captain had "opted out" because of his poor form, and now the focus had shifted to the former captain. Kohli did not just need runs he needed a big knock to keep the wagons away from circling.

As always, he took a middle and leg guard with a slightly closer stance than he had in Melbourne, and looked up to face Scott Boland. The Victorian pacer had been the most venomous of the lot for Australia. Every time he took the field, Boland ran in and hit that one box of a line and length that ensured the ball hit the top of the off-stump. On occasions, the ball would bounce extra catching the batter off guard.

Here was Kohli, probably under more pressure than he ever was through this tour. As the ball pitched in that small area that Boland ever so consistently hits, Kohli shuffled across, got on his back foot and fended at it. The ball squared him up, took the outside edge and flew to the right of Steve Smith at second slip. Smith tried to hold on, but all he could manage was lob it up with his knuckle. Marcus Labuschagne caught it on the rebound and Kohli stood stunned.

He stood there helpless not knowing what to do. If someone had checked his BPM, the machine probably would have stooped working. As the umpires sent the decision upstairs to check the legitimacy of the catch, Kohli was anxious, restless and hoping against hope for a better decision. Joel Wilson, the third umpire for the match, deliberated.

The more time he took to zoom in on whether Smith was in control of the catch as the ball perhaps brushed the grass before being lobbed up, the better Kohli breathed. In the end, the decision was of course not out. He had a sigh of relief. It was his chance to make it count. It was the luck that he needed to go his way. At least that is what he and everyone else in the Indian dressing room would have hoped.

And it looked so for the rest of the first session at least. He was batting on the crease and not too forward and trying to get in line and leave as much as possible. For only the second time this series — the other one being Melbourne's first innings — Kohli looked intent on spending time in the middle. He did not willfully go for those expansive cover drives of full deliveries outside off-stump as he has through the series.

The only time he did go chasing against Mitchell Starc was on the fifth delivery he faced and picked up a couple of runs. Otherwise, he was happy to stand on the crease and leave balls that he did not have to play. There was a phase where Kohli did not score a single run off his bat for 16 balls. He broke it with a couple and then strayed on 11 for another 15 balls.

Kohli wanted to stay in the middle. He needed to. With Sharma not playing — whether his Test career ended in Melbourne or not is something only time will tell — all eyes were on the other senior batter. If Sharma averaged 6.2 with 31 runs in five innings, Kohli — excluding that century in Perth — at 11.16 average with 67 runs in six innings until Sydney. Another failure here would pose serious questions over his place in the playing XI for the next Test India play.

Yes, he would have wanted to score runs and spend time in the middle for the team that is looking to win the match and draw the series. There is absolutely no doubt about it. But the fact that he might be under pressure for his place in the playing XI could have been the extra motivation. He came in at 17/2, batted through the first session, watched Shubman Gill throw his wicket away at the stroke of lunch, came back and took fresh guard again.

Kohli was greeted by Boland again and the former was happy to defend. He played 12 dots before getting another run. Kohli was closing in on 20 (17) as Boland continued. On the first ball of the 32nd over, Boland continued to hit that corridor at mid 130KPHs and the right-hander was happy to defend.

Off the very next delivery, the ball, pitched on the same length, instead of coming into the batter, seamed away and bounced a bit. Kohli in his usual stance was caught on his toes fending at it. This time, the ball travelled to gully and debutant Beau Webster — who had caught everything that came his way and then some — wasn't going to miss.

Another start not converted. Another failure in a long list of familiar dismissals. It's either on the toes, fending off the back foot or chasing full and wide balls with hands. The results have been the same — giving catching practice to the slip cordon.

It was a chance for Kohli to come out and make a statement — that he has still got it, that he still can make match-changing contributions in this format and help India draw the series. But Kohli failed, again, showing his mortality. He got out to Boland for the fourth time in Tests in 98 balls while scoring 32 runs.

From 72/4, India went to 185 all out — thanks to Rishabh Pant, Ravindra Jadeja and Jasprit Bumrah — after opting to bat first on a green top in a must-win game. It is going to be a mountain to climb from here on. But as Pant curbed his instincts to bat time and play the situation, it will be Kohli's innings that would come under the lens. Another failure in the second innings could well define how long the former India captain's Test career goes forward.

SCOREBOARD

India 1st innings: Jaiswal c Webster b Boland 10, Rahul c Konstas b Starc 4, Gill c Smith b Lyon 20, Kohli c Webster b Boland 17, Pant c Cummins b Boland 40, Jadeja lbw b Starc 26, Reddy c Smith b Boland 0, Sundar c Carey b Cummins 14, Krishna c Konstas b Starc 3, Bumrah c Starc b Cummins 22, Siraj not out 3; **Extras:** (B-7, LB-13, NB-6) 26; **Total:** (all out in 72.2 Overs) 185; **FoW:** 1-11, 2-17, 3-57, 4-72, 5-120, 6-120, 7-134, 8-148, 9-168. **Bowling:** Starc 18-5-49-3, Cummins 15.2-4-37-2, Boland 20-8-31-4, Webster 13-4-029-0, Lyon 6-2-19-1. **Australia 1st innings:** Konstas batting 7, Khawaja c Rahul b Bumrah 2; **Extras:** 0; **Total:** (for 1 wicket in 3 overs) 9; **FoW:** 1-9; Bowling: Bumrah 2-0-7-1, Siraj 1-0-2-0.

Deepali delighted with 'very special' recognition

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

AWAY from prying eyes, Deepali Desphande has had quite a sojourn in the last decade or so. The rifle shooter-turned-coach has been part of the ups and downs the sport has been through during that period. She has endured heartbreaks along with the shooters, most notably during the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, and she has also been the first to celebrate their notable highs. In short, she has been one of the vital cogs behind the sport's upswing in the country. Fittingly, Deepali is now in the spotlight. Her years of dedication to the sport that she is passionate about has been recognised as she is set to be handed the prestigious Dronacharya Award soon.

Deepali is naturally stoked with this recognition. "Nobody works for the award. We work for wins and medals. But Arjuna, Dronacharya Awards have a history. It has been there for a long time. For the people outside your sport, everyone identifies you through this achievement. That's what makes it very special. Once you get it, everyone identifies that with the work that you have put in. That is very important and it's more important for your family and friends, who are not into the field, but always rooting for you," the coach said.

Having joined the national setup as a junior coach in 2012, it's no exaggeration to say that Deepali has had a hand in transforming numerous young potential shooters into champions. In the Paris Olympics, Deepali had as many as four shooters, who trained under her, in the squad with one of them — Swapnil Kusale — going on to capture a bronze medal. Deepali and the shooters might have prospered in Paris but they have had to shed plenty of tears, and sweat along the way. That has only added to her wisdom. "You will fail more than you succeed, especially in sports. You just have to keep walking. In the end, everything comes around and everything falls in place," she noted.

One of the primary reasons why she is reaping the fruits of her hard work and dedication is her family. She's grateful to have that support system. "As a coach, I travelled much more than I used to do as an athlete. My daughter was also growing up and I couldn't keep up with social obligations most of the time. All my family members have been really supportive. My brothers have been a rock as well."

Apart from her family, her friends from the sport have been crucial in her overall development. She has a strong memory and recalled in detail the dates and events spent with her friends. Those days have certainly handed her a strong perspective on numerous things and made her the top professional that she is today. She also thanked fellow coach, Jaspal Rana, who has also had a notable hand in transforming shooting. "We (she and her friends) were always a group and we always operated like a team. If there was any problem, we would speak up together. We had one voice. Had they not been there, I might have left the sport a long time ago. Of course, I made other friends as well. I worked with Jaspal for eight years and he had already been supportive."

Her travels are bound to remain as high as ever as she aims for more in the coming years. "The Paris Olympics has shown that we can do well. Now, we should prepare and aim for a gold medal. We have that kind of talent pool and expertise as well."

With Deepali's invaluable experience and knowledge of the sport, the shooters are in good hands to try and pull off that feat in the LA 2028 Olympics.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

HIL: Thrilling win for TN Dragons vs Lancers

AGENCIES @ Rourkela

David Harte of Tamil Nadu Dragons | HIL

VISITING Tamil Nadu Dragons went behind twice but fought back on each occasion to hold Vedanta Kalinga Lancers to a 2-2 stalemate in regulation time and prevailed 6-5 in shootout to complete a remarkable comeback, in their Hockey India League match here on Friday. Alexander Hendrickx (24th, 43rd) scored a brace for Vedanta Kalinga Lancers while Tom Craig (31st) and Jip Janssen (51st) found the target for Tamil Nadu Dragons at the Birsa Munda Stadium.

However, when it mattered the most in the shootout, goalkeeper David Harte denied Dilpreet Singh as Tamil Nadu Dragons won with a bonus point and the Lancers stayed at the bottom of the table. After a goalless first quarter when neither teams created any substantial chances, Hendrickx broke the deadlock nine minutes into the second quarter when he scored from a penalty corner to put the home team in front of a partisan crowd.

Harte, who was enjoying a good game at the post, finally conceded as his team fell behind. However, Tamil Nadu Dragons came back strongly and struck the equaliser through an excellent finish by Craig less than a minute into the third quarter. Craig smashed the ball past a hapless Krishan Pathak at the post following a defensive lapse by Kalinga Lancers.

Stunned by the goal, the Lancers went on the offensive and the Tamil Nadu team also looked to score and had it not been for some nice work by Pathak, the visitors might have taken the lead.

EXPRESS READ

PL title hopefuls seek maximum points

LONDON: Arsenal will look to maintain their title charge when they travel to Brighton in the EPL on Saturday. The Gunners are six points behind leaders Liverpool, who host Man United on Sunday. **Select fixtures: Saturday:** Palace vs Chelsea (8:30 pm); Man City vs West Ham (8:30 pm); Brighton vs Arsenal (11pm). **Sunday:** Liverpool vs United (10pm). **(Live on Hotstar)**

Dumfries double helps Inter reach Cup final

RIYADH: Denzel Dumfries scored both goals as Inter Milan defeated Atalanta 2-0 on Thursday in Riyadh to book his team a place in the Italian Super Cup final. Dumfries put Inter ahead four minutes into the second half with an acrobatic finish and drilled in his second in the hour mark with a blistering strike from the edge of the box.

Djokovic goes down to Opelka in Brisbane

BRISBANE: Former World No 1 Novak Djokovic's Australian Open preparations suffered a blow on Friday as he was bundled out of the Brisbane International by towering American Reilly Opelka. The 2.11 metre (six feet 11 inches) Opelka served magnificently and returned just as well to stun the 24-time Grand Slam winner 7-6 (6), 6-3.

United to extend contract for Maguire

MANCHESTER: Manchester United will trigger a one-year extension to Harry Maguire's contract to keep the defender at Old Trafford until the end of the 2025-26 season, manager Ruben Amorim said. Maguire's deal had been due to expire at the end of this season. He joined United from Leicester in 2019 and was captain before losing it to Bruno Fernandes.

NorthEast United held by Mohammedan in ISL

ENS @ Chennai

NORTHEAST United FC were held to a goalless draw by Mohammedan SC in the Indian Super League in Guwahati on Friday. The home side had a bulk of attempts, especially in the second half, but were unable to find that finishing touch. Chances were scarce for both the teams in the opening half with the away side having a half-chance at the stroke of half-time. However, the goalkeeper was quick to react and avert the danger.

With both sides pushing for the opener, the second-half was more action-packed. NorthEast even tried an innovative free-kick to create a decent chance around the 57th minute mark. Parthib Gogoi, who was at the end of that innovative play, took a touch too long and could not provide the finishing touch.

Just a few minutes later, it was the away side who came very close with Alexis Gomez, from a free-kick, forcing the goalkeeper to get a glove before the ball went on to hit the bar.

VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY

Nair in record books, easy win for Tamil Nadu

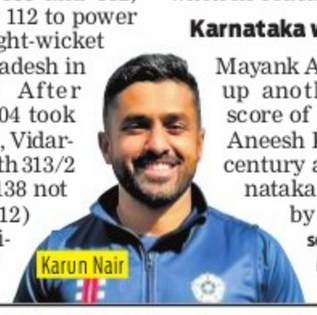
ENS/AGENCIES @ Chennai

KARUN Nair bettered the world record for scoring most List A runs without being dismissed as Vidarbha beat Uttar Pradesh, while Shreyas Iyer's 137 powered Mumbai to a massive 163-run win over Puducherry in their respective Vijay Hazare Trophy matches on Friday.

At Vizianagaram, India bowler Varun Chakravarthy produced an unplayable spell of 5.2-2-9-5 as Tamil Nadu shot out Mizoram for a mere 71 in 21.2 overs and won by 10 wickets with 40 overs to spare.

World record for Karun

Nair, who had gone unbeaten in each of his last four matches scoring 112, 44, 163 and 112, smashed another 112 to power Vidarbha to an eight-wicket win over Uttar Pradesh in Vizianagaram. After Sameer Rizvi's 104 took UP to 307 for eight, Vidarbha responded with 313/2 as Yash Rathod (138 not out) and Nair (112) made merry. He finally got out at 112 but before that he broke the record set by James Franklin in 2010. Franklin had scored 527 runs without being dismissed and Nair surpassed it when he reached 98.



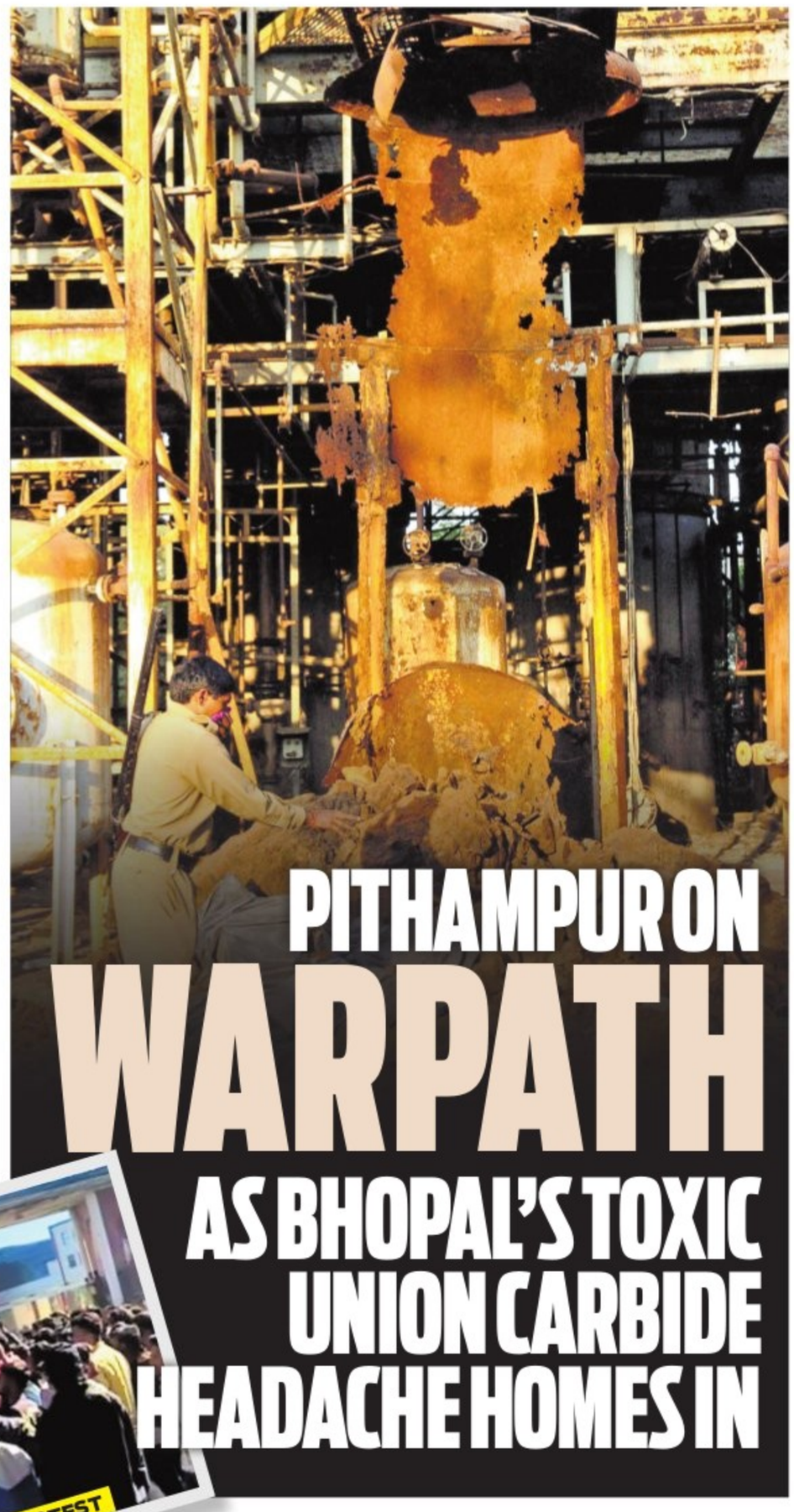
Karnataka win

Mayank Agarawal notched up another significant score of 69 (65 balls) but Aneesh KV (93) missed a century as all-round Karnataka beat Saurashtra by 60 runs. **Select scores: At Vizianagaram:** Uttar Pradesh 307/8 in 50 ovs (Sameer Rizvi 105; Nachiket Bhute 4/65) **lost to** Vidarbha 313/2 in 47.2 overs (Yash Rathod 138*, Karun Nair 112). Mizoram 71 in 21.2 ovs (Varun Chakravarthy 5/9) **lost to** Tamil Nadu 75 for no loss in 10 ovs (N Jagadeesan 46 n.o). **At Ahmedabad:** Karnataka 349/7 in 50 ovs (Mayank Agarawal 69, Aneesh KV 93; Dharmendrasinh Jadeja 3/61) **bt** Saurashtra 289 in 47.5 ovs (Harvik Desai 114; Vasuki Koushik 5/51, Shreyas Gopal 4/63). Punjab 426/4 in 50 ovs (Prabhsimran Singh 137, Abhishek Sharma 93) **bt** Hyderabad 346 in 47.5 ovs (Arshdeep Singh 4/50, Raghu Sharma 3/68). **At Hyderabad:** Kerala 327/5 in 50 ovs (Krishna Prasad 135, Rohan Kunnummal 57) **bt** Tripura 182 in 42.3 ovs (Mandeep Singh 78; MD Nidheesh 3/34, Aditya Sarwate 3/22).

'SEND TOXIC WASTE TO AMERICA'

"Send toxic waste generated from the American company for disposal to the US; we won't allow its processing in Pithampur," a pamphlet said

SHIFTING TOXIC WASTE OUT OF BHOPAL'S ILL-FATED UNION CARBIDE PLANT AFTER FOUR DECADES THROUGH A JUDICIAL FIAT WITHOUT PUBLIC HEARING HAS UPSET RESIDENTS OF PITHAMPUR AND INDORE, AS THEY FEAR ITS INCINERATION COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THEIR WATER BODIES



PITHAMPUR ON WARPATH AS BHOPAL'S TOXIC UNION CARBIDE HEADACHE HOMES IN

PITHAMPUR PROTEST

INCINERATION SITE

UNION CARBIDE PLANT

ANURAAG SINGH @Bhopal

FORTY years after a late-night leak of noxious methyl isocyanate (MIC) gas at the Union Carbide India Limited's (UCIL) pesticide plant killed over 5,500 people in its vicinity in Bhopal and cast its adverse shadow on successive generations, its toxic waste was finally shifted out of Bhopal on January 1. Twelve specially designed, sealed, leak-proof, fire-resistant and GPS tracking-enabled containers, carrying 358 metric tonnes of toxic waste were escorted by police and emergency vehicles through a 250-km Green Corridor to the industrial town of Pithampur in Dhar district of western MP, around 30 km from India's cleanest and the state's most populated city, Indore.

The waste will be stored, treated and incinerated at a treatment-storage-disposal facility (TSDF) in the Pithampur Industrial Area. The transportation was necessitated following a December 3 order by the Jabalpur bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court that was hearing a petition filed way back in 2004 by Alok Pratap, a leader of the gas tragedy's victims based in Bhopal. Pratap died in a road accident in 2015. The court gave the government four weeks to shift out the waste.

"We fail to understand that in spite of issuance of various directions from time to time by the Supreme Court as well as the MP High Court, pursuant to the waste transport-disposal plan of March 2024, till date no steps seem to have been taken to remove the toxic waste/material. They are still in a state of inertia, despite 40 years since the gas tragedy. Though the plan has been sanctioned, contract awarded, still the authorities are inertia which may lead to another tragedy to take shape before acting further," the high court said.

It warned that the failure to comply with the order will result in the prosecution of the Principal Secretary (Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation Department) for contempt of court.

The bench also demanded a compliance report along with a personal affidavit of the department's principal secretary before January 6, the next date of hearing.

The final disposal in Pithampur will happen nearly a decade after successful trial incineration of 10 tonnes of the toxic waste in August 2015, reportedly in a hush-hush manner, owing to opposition by the locals.

The trial run at the Pithampur TSDF in Dhar district — the only such state-of-the-art facility in Madhya Pradesh for incinerating hazardous and chemical waste — was carried out following a 2014 order of the Supreme Court, after efforts to scientifically dispose it of at facilities in Ankleshwar (Gujarat), Nagpur (Maharashtra) and even Hamburg (Germany) failed owing to opposition by local residents and groups.

Swatantra Kumar Singh, Director of the state's Directorate for Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation, said the Common Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facility (CHW-TSDF) at Pithampur, employs advanced technologies for incineration, landfill management and emission control. It continuously monitors water and air quality during the waste disposal process.

Depending on the speed of the incineration — from 90 kg/hour to 180 kg/hour to 270 kg/hour — the entire process of disposal of the 358 metric tonnes may span from 3.5 months to 9 months, Singh said.

An Oversight Committee was established at the Central government level in July 2010 to manage the disposal of UCIL waste. Chaired by the Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, the committee includes the state government's environment minister and the Minister for Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation, environmental experts and representatives from Central institutions, such as the National Environmental and Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur; National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad; Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB); Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), Hyderabad; and the Madhya Pradesh Pollution Control Board (MPPCB). It also includes senior Secretary-level officers from both the Central and state governments. It was designated as the Oversight Committee/Task Force by the High Court. The waste disposal process is being carried out under its guidance and supervision," Singh added.

XPLAINER

The opposition

Days before the packing of the toxic waste began on December 29, there were protests not only in Pithampur town but also in the adjoining Indore. Around 10 local groups in Pithampur have been holding protests against the transport of toxic waste. The agitation picked up pace after the waste reached Pithampur early on January 2, as the protesters marched to the town's bus stand in support of their bandh call the next day.

Amid a massive protest in Pithampur on January 3, two of the agitators — Rajkumar Raghuvanshi and Raj Patel — sustained burn injuries and were hospitalised after a self-immolation bid by one of them saw the other one also catching fire.

"Send the toxic waste generated from the American company for disposal in America, we won't allow it in Pithampur," said a pamphlet in support of the bandh circulated earlier. Locals fear that the incineration will have an adverse effect on the environment, water and soil, thus impacting human and agricultural health.

While the opposition Congress is openly supporting the protests in Pithampur, even leaders of the ruling BJP are worried.

"Hazardous waste was brought to Pithampur without notice. A new plant in a remote area is needed. Sending it abroad for disposal would've been a better solution," said third-time sitting local BJP MLA from Dhar seat Neena Verma.

Residents of Indore, around 30 km away from Pithampur, are equally concerned. Indore mayor and the state's former advocate general Pushyamitra Bhargava, said, "I would request the chief secretary and principal secretary (Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation Department) to file a review petition in the HC. We stand with the people of Pithampur on this issue, as their consent is essential before any such disposal of waste."

Popular as Tai (elder sister) and Indore's voice in the Lok Sabha for eight straight terms, former Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan too had words of caution. "Even the smallest mention of Union Carbide arouses fear and brings before us the ghastly developments of 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy, which not just killed thousands and affected those present in Bhopal at that time, but also foetuses and subsequent generations. The toxic waste from the Union Carbide factory must be disposed of. However, it should be done after detailed discussions with scientists, experts (particularly from Indore) and local residents since it is a question of people's health. This is not a political issue, but an issue concerning our people. I'm confident the government understands it," the octogenarian leader said after meeting state Congress chief Jitu Patwari at her house in Indore. Patwari met her on January 2, seeking support to halt the toxic waste disposal in Pithampur.

"The disposal of this waste could increase the risk of cancer among people of Pithampur and Indore, as per experts. We don't want it to become a Congress vs BJP issue. Around a decade back, samples of the toxic waste from Bhopal were incinerated at the same TSDF on a trial basis. It resulted in a steep drop in agricultural yield from five quintals to just one quintal within a 2-4 km radius from the TSDF. The tube well water is no longer potable. We need to be scientifically assured that the possible seepage of water from the TSDF into the Gambhir river and ultimately to the Yashwant Sagar Dam (which takes care of around 40% of Indore's drinking water needs) will not happen in the coming years. Rushing the waste-burning process could result in long-term harm to Yashwant Sagar, a crucial water source for Indore," Patwari argued.

> *Statements of locals around the TSDF suggest they've been contracting skin infections after consuming water from borewells after the trial incineration around a decade back*
>
> — PIL of MGM Medical College alumni in HC

Former students of the state government's largest medical college, MGM Medical College in Indore, filed a PIL in MP High Court's Indore Bench on December 30, seeking an immediate halt to the disposal of waste in Pithampur. "The statements of locals around the TSDF suggest they've been contracting skin infections after consuming water from borewells after the trial incineration around a decade back. No medical survey of the population has been conducted to study the repercussions of the 2015 exercise; no camps of doctors are in place to assess and prevent human health problems due to the planned incineration. One of my petitioners, who is a cancer specialist, is of the firm view that the disposal of the toxic waste in Pithampur may cause cancers in the coming years. By arbitrarily going ahead with waste disposal, the state government is curtailing the right to health and the right to live and breathe in fresh and pollution free air," said Abhinav Dhanodkar, the counsel for the petitioners.

More than a decade ago, Jayant Malaiya, the then minister of environment and urban administration in the Shivraj Singh Chouhan-led BJP regime, had reportedly said that toxic waste could not be dumped in Pithampur, as it was close to the catchment area of the Yashwant Sagar Lake, which supplies substantive drinking water to Indore.

Faced with growing opposition, the CM assigned seasoned troubleshooter and senior-most minister of his government, Kailash Vijayvargiya, with the task of building consensus on the matter. Vijayvargiya has already held talks with local representatives, including MPs and MLAs over the issue in Indore and Dhar districts.

State govt's stand

While allaying safety concerns of people, particularly those in Pithampur and Indore, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said on January 2, "the disposal of waste will be carried out carefully while addressing public concerns. After 40 years of the accident, the harmful effects of the waste kept in Bhopal have come to an end. More than 60% of the transported waste is local soil, while the rest comprises waste of 7-naphthol, reactor residues and semi-processed pesticides. The 7-naphthol residue present in it is basically a co-product of the process of making methyl isocyanate and pesticides. Experts believe that it loses its toxicity after 25 years."

In March 2013, 10 tonnes of Union Carbide-like waste from Hindustan Insecticides Limited, Kochi, Kerala was transported and a trial run was conducted at TSDF in Pithampur under the supervision of the Central Pollution Control Board. The report of the successful trial run was presented to the Supreme Court. Based on its findings, the court directed in April 2014 that another trial run of 10 tonnes of UCIL waste be conducted at TSDF Pithampur with full videography of the process. Its outcome suggested that the waste disposal did not harm the environment. The court then instructed the full disposal of all UCIL waste.

Parallelly, the MP chief secretary conducted a separate investigation on the impact of the incineration on human health in the surrounding villages, effect on crop productivity and the quality of regional water sources. Nothing negative was found as a result of UCIL waste disposal.

"Our government is fully sensitive towards waste disposal. It will be done under the continuous monitoring of the Central Pollution Control Board, Madhya Pradesh State Pollution Control Board as well as all the concerned teams," the CM assured.

Covid management behind India's progress in reducing emissions

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

INDIA'S 4th Biennial Update Report (BUR-4) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) suggests the country is on the road to decoupling its economy from carbon-intensive fossil fuels to a renewable energy-driven economy. However, experts attributed the improvement in data to the Covid lockdown instead of any additional genuine effort.

The report shows that in 2020, India's total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions decreased by 7.93% as compared to 2019. Long term analysis also shows that the country has continued decoupling economic growth from GHG emissions.

Between 2005 and 2020, the emission intensity of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reduced by 36%.

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupendra Yadav attributed the good performance to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policies, adding India is leading by example in sustainable growth.

Climate scientist Prof T Jayaraman appreciated the progress towards net zero target, adding India has fulfilled more than its pre-2020 pledge of reducing its emissions intensity of GDP by 20-25% below 2005 levels. However, he underlined the achievement is due to economic consequences of the Covid pandemic and its management.

"The emissions reduction of 2020 with respect to 2019 must be seen in the context of the economic consequences of Covid and its management strategies and should not be interpreted as a sign of decarbonisation," said Jayraman.

In the energy sector, by October 2024, the share of non-fossil sources in the installed electricity generation capacity was 46.52%, which is near the target of 50%. The cumulative renewable power installed capacity has increased 4.5 times from 35 GW in March 2014 to 156.25 GW.

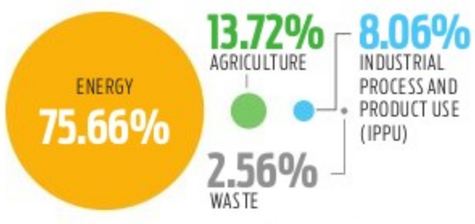
"The report shows a promising increase in renewable energy capacity. However, it doesn't mention much about storage and transmission related critical information," said another expert who did not want to be named. Also, the report shows coal is still dominating the energy sector. Besides, the renewable energy capacity continues to be underutilised.

The report also indicates that India has managed its forest and open grassland wisely, which helped in reducing carbon emission of approximately 522 million tonnes of CO2e. It works out to around 22% of the country's total carbon dioxide emissions in 2020. Between 2005 and 2021, an additional carbon sink of 2.29 billion tonnes of CO2 equivalent has been created.

In 2020, India's total GHG emissions, excluding land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF), were 2,959 million tonnes of CO2e and 2,437 million tonnes of CO2e with the inclusion of LULUCF.

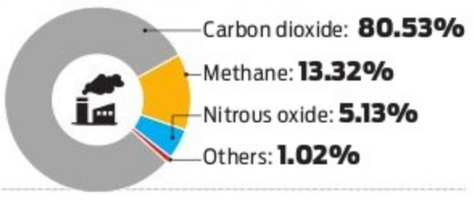
According to the report, the energy sector contributed the most to overall emissions (75.66%), followed by agriculture (13.72%), industrial processes and product use (8.06%), and waste (2.56%). *(see Table 1)*

1 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY SECTOR IN 2020



In terms of GHGs, carbon dioxide emission constitutes the largest quantity followed by methane and nitrous oxide. *(see Table 2)*

2 INDIA'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2020



Environment expert Debi Goenka of the Conservation Action Trust took a critical look at the data India submitted to the UN body, citing increasing coal mining, deforestation and rising sea temperature. "India's coal consumption has been increasing, natural dense forest is reducing, forest fires are increasing and ocean temperature is rising, which reduces its CO2 sinking capacity," Goenka said. He further questioned the renewable energy data. "If the quantum of renewable energy has been scaled up so much, then why reliance on coal mining is also going up," he wondered.

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04.01.2025
SATURDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Independence Day

In 1948, the British colony of Burma, now Myanmar, became an independent nation after more than sixty years of colonial rule

EARLY BURMA

Burma was first formed during the 11th century. King Anawratha ascended the throne in 1044, uniting Burma under his monarchy. Pagan was the first capital of a Burmese kingdom

BRITISH ANNEX BURMA

British and the Siamese joined forces in 1824, resulting in three Anglo-Burmese Wars. The British won, and established full control over the country in 1885

FORMING NATION

Thakin Nu, a Burmese statesman belonging to the AFPFL party, formed a new cabinet. He was the first PM of Burma after independence

CE's guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

Hermitage is a 100-year-old colonial style building which belonged to the director of the first Kannada talkie

ECHOES OF YESTERDAY

These historic spaces, once forgotten, are being revitalised as cafes, restaurants, and bakeries, each with a unique story to tell

Sagarika Joshi and Garvit Luthra

POOJA DAS

NOSTALGIA. This one word has woven itself into the fabric of an entire generation. Whether it's rewatching beloved movies on the big screen or rediscovering hobbies like crocheting, people are seeking spaces that allow them to escape from the relentless pace of urbanisation and the sameness of modern design aesthetics. In response to this desire, a new wave of entrepreneurs is transforming old heritage properties into innovative businesses. "Bengaluru has become a concrete jungle. People are looking for spaces that remind them of home or offer an escape," says Chef Sagarika Joshi, co-founder of Muru Muru, Indiranagar, a cosy 1960s-era home-turned-cafe.

Joshi, along with co-founder Garvit Luthra, was immediately captivated by the house's old-world charm. "When we saw this place, we wanted to retain as much of its original character. The house had several small rooms, so we had to break down a few walls to make it functional but our primary goal was to give people a warm, nostalgic, and homely feeling," says Joshi. The café opened its doors in June 2024, offering a menu of fresh, comfort-driven flavours that break away from the typical cafe staples. Guests are also invited to type out comments on a vintage typewriter, adding to the café's nostalgic vibe.

While the renovation process took five months, it came with its challenges. "We had to make a lot of adjustments. The electrical meters weren't designed for commercial use, so we had to upgrade to a three-phase meter," says Luthra, who decided, with Joshi, to renovate the place themselves.

For Umme Farnaz, the owner of vegetarian restaurant Hermitage, a 100-year-old colonial-style property in Malleswaram was love at first sight. Built in the 1920s, the house has a fascinating history as the residence of YV Rao, director of the first Kannada talkie *Sati Sulochana* (1934). "The filmmaker was closely associated with Dr Rajkumar as well. Many of his photos and memorabilia are still preserved on the property. The house later became known as 'Shooting Mane' in Kannada, as it was used for film shoots for over 20 years," says Farnaz.

Similar to the typewriter at Muru Muru, Hermitage, also brings with it a host of old artefacts to transport you 100 years back. "We worked hard to preserve its unique architectural features, like a 60-year-old mango tree, a vintage fountain, and even a 70-year-old Siemens phone," says Farnaz.

While Muru Muru and Hermitage were old properties that had aligned with the founders' visions, Ria Belliappa of Juny's Bakehouse has a more personal story to share. The bakehouse in Jayanagar is a tribute to her grandmother, Juny. "Converting this home into a bakery feels like honouring her legacy while creating a space where the community can experience nostalgic yet modern flavours," says Belliappa , a pastry chef for over 10 years. Every element of the home has been carefully preserved, from its wooden beams and arched windows to the original stones on the façade. "At the same time, we've incorporated functional upgrades like a professional-grade kitchen. It's all about striking the right balance between the past and the present," shares Belliappa.

Patrons enjoy lunch at Hermitage

PICS: NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Old pictures and memorabilia preserved at Hermitage

The typewriter at Muru Muru

Heritage properties have a soul and story that modern spaces often lack. For entrepreneurs, it's a way to stand out while preserving something irreplaceable

Ria Belliappa
owner, Juny's Bakehouse

'Not just about aesthetics'

Joshi believes that these vintage-themed restorations are not just about aesthetics. "It's hard to find spaces with charm and character. It's not just about aesthetics; it's about a feeling of warmth and belonging that's missing in many modern spaces," she reflects.

Agreeing to the sentiment, Farnaz highlights, "It's about breaking away from the monotony. Today, so many places look the same – glass buildings, and swanky restaurants – they all lack a unique identity. Heritage properties offer something different, something rooted in history and culture." She also says that while transforming an old property might be a challenge, it is well worth the time and effort along with being sustainable. "Instead of demolishing a beautiful old building to construct yet another modern structure, why not reuse and preserve what's already there?"

With the fast-paced lives everyone is living, Belliappa adds that these spaces instantly 'encourage a sense of community, history and connection'. "Heritage properties have a soul and story that modern spaces often lack. For entrepreneurs, it's a way to stand out while preserving something irreplaceable."

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor
(@aslamgafoor)
is a seasoned hospitality professional with a rich background in business development, sales, and marketing with renowned hotels and F&B companies. With an unwavering passion for food, travel, and wines, he takes great delight in sharing his insights and experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'**
The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The winner will receive a voucher worth ₹1,500 from Smoor Chocolates (dine-in only)**

1. What bread-like cake with hidden trinkets is served in Greece during New Year celebrations?
2. What is the name of the stuffed dumplings eaten in Eastern Europe for luck in the New Year?
3. What baked item do Mexicans enjoy during New Year's Eve as a symbol of togetherness?

SHADES OF THE SEASON

From the return of fashion of the '70s to bright makeup and subtle nail looks, here's what fashion trends are set to take 2025 by storm

Actor Tamannaah Bhatia in a leopard print dress

Colour blocking with eye shadow

French tips

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

WHILE 2024 was ruled by no-makeup makeup looks and monochromatic outfits, Bengaluru's fashionistas predict bright colours, bold makeup will take centre stage alongside a continued emphasis on sustainable fashion and natural fabrics.

Blast to the past

Fashion of the '70s, with all its bold colours and oversized fits, is going to make a comeback this year, leaving behind the monochromatic looks and pastel colours of 2024. "The style in 2025 is going to be more like the '60s and '70s – those type of silhouettes, blouses, brooches, midi skirts and animal prints will be in.
We will have oversized blazers, oversized bags denim on denim looks, frills and boho-chic styles," says Sonia Pardesi, an image consultant and transformational coach.

Men's fashion, too, will say goodbye to monochromatic looks, instead experimenting with retro styles, and mixing colours and patterns. "People will shift to a mix of textures, patterns, and colours for more dynamic outfits. Tight cuts are likely to fade as more comfort-focussed silhouettes like wide-leg pants rise in prominence," says Bengaluru-based menswear designer, Bassam Osman, who has designed for actor Suriya, along with musicians AR Rahman and Ricky Kej.

Colour-colour, which colour?

With the return of '70s silhouettes has arrived a shift from the subtle makeup looks of 2024 to bold, bright, and adventurous colours that pop. "In 2024, people played it safe with minimalistic looks and monochromatic colours – similar shades of lip tint, eye shadow and lots of blush but 2025 will bring more experimentation," says Rashida Pavthiwala, a makeup artist who specialises in luxury brand shoots and who has created looks for celebrities like Samyuktha Hegde, Dhanya Ramkumar, and Anant Nag.

"There's going to be a lot more texture in makeup, in terms of particles, glitters, ornaments, and pearls. Eyeshadow with dual chrome effects and colour blocking will be the trend – eyeshadow will not be all brown but yellow and brown, mustard and brown, orange and brown, etc. There will be complimentary colour usage like purples, mustards, greens together in fashion, like in the '70s, which will reflect in makeup as well," she adds.

Less is more

While 2024 saw people experimenting with bold nail looks with detailed nail art, chrome polishes, and extravagant cat eye effects, nail technician Maude Abraham predicts a subtler approach this year. "In 2025, less is more. The focus will be on textures and finishes rather than bright or monotone colours. Soupy nails with transparent or translucent milky tones will start to trend – it looks like your natural nail but with a sheen," says Abraham.

Unique and sustainable

The last few years have seen increased conversations around sustainable fashion with many picking up pre-loved clothes, and 2025 will see this continue. "Menswear will be about finding a blend of innovation, sustainability and self-expression, marked by a shift from the overly casual and impractical styles of the past," says Osman. "The demand for sustainable fashion brands using natural fibres temperature regulating fibres, and performance-oriented materials will grow in 2025," he adds.

Chrome French tips

XPRESS FOCUS

RnR Fit Gymnastics Academy Shines at National Championship in Surat

Bengaluru's premier gymnastics academy, RnR Fit, recently celebrated the impressive accomplishments of its gymnasts at the National Gymnastics Championship in Surat. Competing in the sub-junior and junior women's artistic gymnastics categories, the RnR Fit gymnasts faced tough competition from teams across Gujarat, Telangana, West Bengal, Odisha, Tripura, Maharashtra, Kerala, Manipur, and Delhi, yet they delivered exceptional performances.

Oceana Renee Thomas, 14, placed 6th overall in the Junior category and clinched a silver medal on the Balance Beam. Another standout, 14-year-old Anya Maria Dsouza, secured a bronze medal in the Junior category on the Uneven Bars. Meanwhile, 11-year-old Tanishka added to the medal tally with a bronze medal performance on the Balance Beam in the Sub-Junior category.

The founders of RnR Fit, Vivienne and Ebenezer, expressed their pride in the gymnasts' achievements. "Competing at the national level is no small feat, and our gymnasts have truly made us proud," they said, and added, "Their grit, resilience, and hard work shine through in every performance. This success is a reflection of the incredible teamwork between our gymnasts, coaches, and the unwavering support of their parents. We as an academy believe in precision over flash. A big thank you to parents for believing in the process."

Nitin Gadkari Inaugurates bauma CONEXPO INDIA 2024

The 7th edition of bauma CONEXPO INDIA, inaugurated by Nitin Gadkari, has set a pioneering benchmark for India's construction, mining, and infrastructure sectors. Held at the India Expo Centre in Greater Noida, the event marked a significant milestone in the nation's infrastructure development.

Spanning 135,000 square meters of exhibition space, the event showcased cutting-edge solutions and attracted 51,118 trade visitors from India and abroad. The event also facilitated 6,298 buyer-seller meetings, ensuring valuable industry collaborations, and introduced over 20,000 groundbreaking products and solutions.

NSDC International & PhysicsWallah Launch 'BIG' Initiative

National Skill Development Corporation International (NSDC International) and PhysicsWallah (PW) have launched Bharat Innovation Global Private Limited (BIG), a joint initiative aimed at transforming India into a global education hub.

BIG seeks to align education with workforce demands by bridging the gap between academics and employability, offering flexible, technology-driven learning pathways.

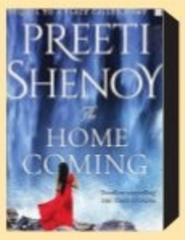
Alakh Pandey, Founder & CEO of PhysicsWallah, emphasised, "Education is not a one-size-fits-all solution; it's a dynamic and evolving journey that requires collaboration, innovation, and adaptability."

Bengaluru Leads in Entertainment: 70% Growth in Live Events

BookMyShow's year-end report, #BookMyShowThrowback, highlighted key trends from 2024, showcasing Bengaluru's leadership in entertainment. The city saw a 70% growth in live events, while 16% of 2024's Hollywood movie tickets were already booked by Indian audiences. The report celebrated a resurgence in cinema and a meteoric rise in live entertainment.

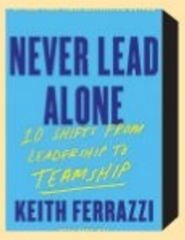
The year marked a defining period for India's entertainment landscape, with audiences embracing everything from iconic cinematic experiences to electrifying live events and booming on-demand streaming, reflecting the growing and insatiable demand for entertainment across the nation.

BOOK NOOK



The Homecoming
by Preeti Shenoy

To the world, Alka's life is picture-perfect. But when disaster strikes after Subbu's near-fatal accident, buried secrets begin to surface, ripping apart the veneer of perfection. Can Alka's marriage survive the weight of deception? Or will a forbidden love damage hearts and destroy lives?

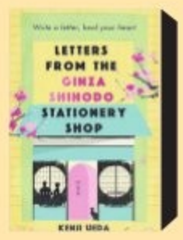


Never Lead Alone: 10 Shifts from Leadership to Teamship
by Keith Ferrazzi

In *Never Lead Alone*, Keith shares the approach that drives his coaching practice — the playbook he has used to reboot team performance at major brands.

India in Science
by HarperCollins India

The book presents bite-sized bits of information about science and scientists through an eye-catching design with colourful illustrations, carefully chosen photographs, deeply researched facts.



Letters from the Ginza Shihodo Stationery Shop
by Kenji Ueda

Hidden away in a corner of the Ginza neighbourhood is a venerable stationery shop. To venture inside is to find everything your stationery-loving heart desires. To this shop comes a young company employee, uncertain in his career and needing a connection back to his past.

NASCENT FAITH

Young students from Vidyapeetha take part in an event held in remembrance of the late Pejawar Math Seer, Vishwesha Tirtha. | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICKFIX

RAGI SOUP

INGREDIENTS

- **Onion:** 1 large (finely chopped)
- **Garlic:** 1 tbsp (finely chopped)
- **Ginger:** 1 tbsp (finely chopped)
- **Lime juice:** 1 tbsp
- **Green chilli:** 1 (finely chopped)
- **Green beans, capsicum, cabbage:** 1/4 cup (finely chopped)
- **Water:** 4cups
- **Butter/oil:** 1tbsp
- **Carrot:** 1/2 cup (finely chopped)
- **Black pepper powder:** 1tbsp
- **Coriander leaves:** 2tbsp (chopped)
- **Ragi flour:** 1/2 cup
- **Bay leaf :** 1
- **Salt to taste**
- **Cloves:** 2
- **Cinnamon stick :** 1 inch

METHOD

- Warm 1/2 cup water, add ragi flour to make a paste and keep it aside.
- Heat butter/oil in a wok, add onion, ginger, and garlic and sauté till the raw smell disappears.
- Add bay leaf, cloves and cinnamon stick. Sauté and add all the chopped veggies.
- Add 3 and a half cups of water and bring it to a boil. Then reduce the heat and put it on simmer.
- Remove the bay leaf, cloves and cinnamon stick.
- Now, add the ragi paste, stir and allow to cook. Once it thickens, turn off the stove.
- Add salt, pepper powder, lemon juice and coriander leaves, and then serve hot.

Contributed by **Muktha H S**, Mysuru

NOWSTREAMING

BHOOL BHULAIYAA 3 (Hindi)

In Kolkata, Rooh Baba enters a spooky estate where he confronts a pair of vindictive ghosts, both asserting to be Manjulika.

Cast: Kartik Aaryan, Vidya Balan, Madhuri Dixit, Tripti Dimri

- **Watch on:** Netflix

ALL WE IMAGINE AS LIGHT
(Malayalam, Hindi)

In Mumbai, Nurse Prabha is troubled when she receives an unexpected gift from her husband. Her roommate, Anu, tries in vain to find a spot to be intimate with her boyfriend.

Cast: Divya Prabha, Kani Kusruti, Chhaya Kadam

- **Watch on:** Disney+ Hotstar

FOREIGN

NEVER LET GO (English)

An evil takes over the world. A mother and her sons are protected by their strong bond. They cling to one another. When one of the boys questions if the evil is real, the ties that bind them together are severed.

Cast: Halle Berry, Christin Park, Percy Daggs IV

- **Watch on:** Amazon Prime Video

SUBSCRIPTION

Netflix :	₹ 199/month
Prime Video:	₹ 299/month
Jio Cinema:	₹ 999/year
Disney+ Hotstar:	₹ 899/year
Zee5 :	₹ 699/year
Viki Rakuten:	₹ 299/month
Aha:	₹ 699/year
SonyLIV:	₹ 299/month

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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FITBIT

MATSYASANA WHEEL
(FISH POSE WHEEL)

This pose, as the name suggests, is a supported variation of the foundational pose, Matsyasana (Fish Pose). In this variation, the backbend is supported by a yoga prop wheel. It is perfect for beginners or students with limited strength and flexibility while stretching the pectoral and shoulder muscles. For advanced practitioners, it offers a way to hold a deeper stretch for a longer duration.

STEPS

- Grab a yoga wheel, ensuring it is stable and won't roll or slip during the pose. Sit in Dandasana (Staff Pose) with your legs extended straight in front. Place the yoga wheel directly behind your back, aligning it parallel to your spine. Hold the wheel lightly with your hands and bend your knees.
- Inhale deeply. On exhalation, initiate a backward movement, leaning over the top of the wheel. Allow it to move with your body, releasing your hands for a seamless motion.
- Elevate your hips to deepen the pose, letting the wheel support and massage your spine, particularly between the shoulder blades. Relax your head and neck against the wheel, letting the head hang toward the floor.
- Stretch your legs out in front, open your arms wide to the sides, and relax your palms facing upward with fingers softly curled. Close your eyes and begin deep breathing. Stay in this position for 6-8 breaths, focusing on expanding the chest with each inhalation and relaxing into the backbend with each exhalation.
- To release, bend your knees. Inhale and unroll your back on the wheel to lower your hips to the floor. Sit in Dandasana after removing the wheel.
- Fold forward into Caterpillar Pose as a counter stretch. Finish by relaxing in Staff Pose with hands back and knees bent.

LIMITATIONS

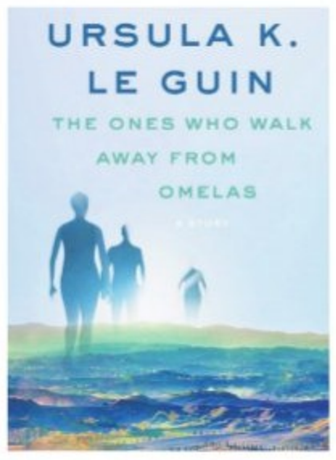
- Avoid if you have injuries or surgeries involving the back, hips, shoulders, or neck, severe back pain, herniated discs, or low blood pressure.
- Not recommended for severe asthma, COPD, vertigo, dizziness, or insomnia.
- Pregnant women should avoid this pose.
- Individuals with excessive abdominal pressure or cervical issues should refrain from practice.
- Seniors should perform the pose slowly and with caution.

BENEFITS

- Encourages a deep backbend, enhancing spinal flexibility and mobility.
- Provides support, making poses more accessible for beginners.
- Engages all major muscle groups.
- Promotes respiration, rejuvenates energy, and provides profound rest.
- Increases blood flow to the brain, calming the mind and boosting mood.
- Helps alleviate mild depression, stress, and anxiety.
- Improves posture and addresses rounded shoulders caused by prolonged sitting.
- Beneficial for kids, teens, and working professionals.
- Stimulates fresh blood supply to the abdominal area.
- Strengthens pelvic floor, abdominal, and lower back muscles.
- Therapeutic for sedentary lifestyles.
- Opens the chest, increasing lung capacity and aiding respiratory disorders like asthma and colds.
- Improves abdominal organ function, aiding digestion, diabetes, and IBD.
- Helps with menstrual cramps and PCOD.
- Reduces aches and pains in the neck, shoulders, and upper back.
- Prevents or reduces sagging of the breasts.
- Safe for seniors with bent legs.
- Enhances breath awareness and connection.
- Promotes sthiram (firmness) and sukham (pleasantness) in posture.
- Supports mindful yoga practices and is suitable for athletes.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

WHATWHENWHYWHERE



Book(ish) Talk

Attend Books aur Baatein, a venture for literature enthusiasts to convene and discuss. This Sunday, 'The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas', a short story by Ursula K Le Guin and 'The Empathy Exams', an essay by Leslie Jamison are up for reading and discussion.

WHEN: January 5, 5.30 pm
WHERE: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur
DETAILS: bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

Godot or Naseeruddin?

Sapan Saran and Srinivas Beesetty's *Waiting for Naseer*, as the name suggests, is a play on Samuel Beckett's famous *Waiting for Godot*. Do not miss this contemporary spin on the Absurdist classic.

WHEN: January 4, 8pm
WHERE: Alliance Francaise de Bangalore, Vasanth Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Clementful Clay

This pottery workshop could be the perfect activity for you this weekend. It is a comprehensive two-hour workshop, split into hand-building and using the pottery wheel for the final finish.

WHEN: January 4, 6pm
WHERE: Maya's Pottery, Jeevan Bima Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Book Launch

Attend the launch of *Pruthvivallabha Kannara Deva*, a historic novel, and *Thaalme*, a poetry collection by author Nagaraj Deshpande. **WHEN:** January 5, 4pm onwards
WHERE: Kannada Sahitya Parishat, Chamarajpet **CALL:** 080-26623584

Feline Fun

Cat parents, cat lovers and animal enthusiasts in general are in for a treat this weekend! The Feline Club of India is organising a Championship Cat Show, open to participation and attendance from all age groups. A bit of competition and a bit of camaraderie; this event has it all.

WHEN: January 5, 11 am
WHERE: Jayamahal Palace
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Quiz and Quips

Attention quizsters! Get ready for an open-for-all, free quiz contest organised by 4Edge Quizzing. Be it the beers, the prize or the exhilarating company, it will make for a fun weekend evening.

WHEN: January 5, 5pm
WHERE: Smoke House Deli, Lavelle Road
DETAILS: insider.in

Walls Do Speak

Watch the screening of Alana Hunt's film, *Surveilling a Crime Scene*, chronicling the materialisation of non-indigenous life in North-West Australia. Hunt will also be in conversation with filmmaker Yashaswini Raghunandan following the screening. **WHEN:** January 4, 5pm
WHERE: MAP Bengaluru, Kasturba Road **DETAILS:** map-india.org

Comedic Chaos

Everybody loves a good coming-of-age story as much as every comedian likes to make it their bread and butter. In *Daily Ka Kaam Hai*, **Aakash Gupta** speaks with comic candour about his graduation and his first job, and all the amusing circumstances his decisions have led him to along the way.

WHEN: January 10, 8.30pm
WHERE: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Museum Road
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

ARTCORNER

AN ANTIQUE PIECE OF LOVE

Madhu Venugopalan's painting depicts man's yearning to sit without being swept away by the storm of restlessness amidst life's fraught realities of instability and uncertainty.

ON THE 2025 PLATE

From bold street food flavours to mindful indulgences, 2025 promises a feast that satisfies both the palate and the planet

ASLAM GAFOOR

(The writer is a Bengaluru-based hospitality professional, food lover, and travel enthusiast)

2025 is here and the food and beverage industry is gearing up for a dynamic year shaped by transformative trends. Sustainability, wellness, and personalised experiences are set to take centre stage, reflecting the growing demand for thoughtful and innovative culinary offerings. From the resurgence of global street food and the rise of hyperlocal sourcing to plant-forward menus, community-driven coffee spaces, destination dining, and sustainable cocktails focused on reducing waste, the year promises to blend bold flavours with mindful choices.

One of the most exciting predictions for 2025 is the spotlight on global street food. Sunil Kumar, director of food and beverage at The Ritz-Carlton, Bangalore, notes, "Street food with bold flavours and creative local twists will dominate menus, offering guests an adventurous yet familiar culinary journey." Coupled with sustainable seafood options like locally farmed shellfish and underutilised fish varieties, this trend bridges novelty and eco-consciousness.

Hyperlocal sourcing will remain a key focus for chefs across India, ensuring that dining is both immersive and sustainable. Chef Mahesh Kini, director of culinary at JW Marriott Hotel Bengaluru, highlights the importance of local food systems. "Hyperlocal ingredients reduce environmental impact while delivering quality and freshness," he notes, adding that multisensory dining experiences will merge art and culinary craftsmanship for guests.

Plant-forward menus are also on the rise, with mushrooms emerging as a hero ingredient. Ryan Tham, co-founder of Pebble Street Hospitality, observes, "Mushrooms, rich in plant-based protein and unique flavours, are perfect for traditional and contemporary dishes. Their versatility makes them a standout choice for health-conscious diners." Alongside mushrooms, fermented foods are expected to shine for their gut-health benefits, catering to consumers seeking functional nutrition.

These evolving food trends are mirrored in the beverage sector, where innovation is thriving. Low-alcohol and craft drinks remain popular, with coffee-infused cocktails and botanical blends taking the spotlight. Functional beverages enriched with adaptogens and probiotics are poised to become everyday essentials. Anirudh Kheny, owner, Daysie – All Day Casual Bar and Serious Slice, observes, "Cocktail bars emphasising seasonal, locally-sourced ingredients will appeal to a more discerning and adventurous clientele."

Tequila's growing popularity also shows no signs of slowing. Tham predicts, "Innovative tequila-based cocktails and premium sipping tequilas will captivate taste buds, solidifying tequila as a key player in the beverage scene for 2025." Kombucha, too, is poised for a breakout year, with its versatility as both a standalone beverage and a cocktail base. Shishir Sathyan, co-founder of Mossant Fermentary, highlights, "Our blueberry lemonade kombucha has been a customer favourite, showcasing kombucha's potential to lead in 2025."

The rise of chef-driven, small-cover restaurants will reshape the dining landscape. According to Kheny, "These intimate spaces allow chefs to showcase their creativity, offering personalised experiences that resonate with diners seeking more curated meals." This trend aligns with the broader desire for unique, immersive dining experiences, as consumers prioritise quality over quantity.

Health-conscious indulgence is another theme shaping 2025. Chef Neeraj Rawoot, director of culinary at JW Marriott Bengaluru Prestige Golfshire Resort & Spa, predicts a surge in dishes enriched with micronutrient-dense superfoods and plant-based alternatives.

"From omega-packed desserts to salads enhanced with nutrient-rich seed blends, the emphasis will be on delivering guilt-free decadence," he explains. This balance of wellness and luxury reflects a growing demand for mindful yet indulgent dining.

Vijay Bhandari, executive chef at Courtyard by Marriott Bengaluru Outer Ring Road, highlights the emergence of Japanese influences in cocktails, citing examples like shiso leaf margaritas and Nagaland chilli infusions. He also notes that plant-protein-based drinks, such as fava bean smoothies, will promote wellness-focused living.

Economic factors will also influence dining trends, with value meals offering affordability without compromising on quality. Kini highlights that balancing cost and creativity will be key, ensuring that guests can enjoy exceptional meals within accessible price points. Technology is set to play a significant role in shaping dining experiences. Stephen George, director of food & beverages at Renaissance Bengaluru Race Course, envisions personalised nutrition taking centre stage. "Advancements in technology will allow tailored products to meet individual preferences," he says. Immersive experiences, ranging from virtual reality events to curated pop-ups, will further redefine guest engagement in 2025. From bold street food flavours to mindful indulgences, 2025 promises a feast that satisfies both the palate and the planet.

(The writer's views are personal)

Neha and Ankur Dhingra with Akshay and Sakshi Dev

RUBINATIONS
Rubi Chakravarti
Writer, actor and funny girl

A NEW DAWN

Suresh Hinduja

LIKE every year, the sun sets and a new dawn emerges the next day. And like every year there are people who repeat the same mistakes, some get enlightened and some well…just grow older! I grew older, and hopefully wiser. Since the hubby and I are 'social cutlets' (like some uncharitable friends like to call us), we follow this gamut most New Year's eve. Unless we are travelling, the 'other-half' and moi change into our PJs and share a bottle of sparkling wine, wait till 12 (because that is when happily inebriated family and friends call), give each other a peck on the cheek, and snuggle into our warm duvets. Life is sorted. We have lived together most of our lives, we know and accept each other's idiosyncrasies, have raised two wonderful human beings together, have a new munchkin in our lives, have 'nutting' to prove, and I thought this was life! Just when one thinks that one has a handle on things, the universe sniggers.

I lost a dear friend, Suresh Hinduja. He was bombastic, opinionated, loud, and creator of fantastical narratives! He was also generous, kind, gregarious, and extremely knowledgeable. A food critic, a raconteur, and an aficionado, he had a wide-eyed following of many pretty ladies to whom he was a mentor. But, he was my friend…I lost a friend who curled up and peacefully passed away in his sleep. I will miss him sorely. A man with many talents, a storyteller, and a maverick, a man who had a passion for anything edible, an innovator and a connoisseur of all things fine and wonderful. A unique individual and the universe broke the mould when he passed. Rest in Peace my friend.

My kids and extended family were in Goa for New Year's. Going by my past experience where we would bump into neighbours and friends at every beach and bar, I decided to stay home. A big mistake because Goa was nearly deserted, what with tourists finding better (and cheaper) alternatives and who were fed-up of being fleeced by the local populace and hotels! The taxis are a menace and literally have a 'goonda-lobby' where even a short ride is nothing less than a couple of thousand rupees! The pristine beaches of Sri-Lanka, Mauritius and Langkawi beckon the tourists for far less the price or hassle. Another destination bites the dust!

I much prefer to celebrate a new day with friends. All the sensible 'seniors' who stayed home on New Year's Eve and woke up fresh and alert on New Year's day were out celebrating at my bff, Alka Dev's gorgeous home. The adept bartender whipped up some great cocktails as the smell of fresh breads from the 'tandoor' permeated the air. Great, wholesome, Punjabi food, some rocking music and her kids (all down from different parts of the world), were there in full attendance. There's a massive comfort in knowing and loving family and good friends in one's lifetime. At least we're not hugging strangers and wishing them a 'happy new year' in some obscure club or hotel.

I wish you all my readers, the grace to live and love as impactfully as you can. We may know how much wealth we have, but most often we don't know how much time we have.

(The writer's views are personal)

CHANGE OF NAME
I, BABU BYRAN, resident of No. 1, 1st Main, 1 Cross, Hosakerehalli, BSK 3rd Stage, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560085, have changed my name to **BABU BYRAN N** vide affidavit dated: 01.01.2025 before advocate and notary K.C. Shashikala, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, ABIB SABA, S/o. Late Ahamad Sab, Patalamma Layout, Kadugodi Plantation, Kadugodi, Bangalore 560067 have changed my name to **ABEEB SAB** vide affidavit dated: 02.01.2025 before advocate and notary Uma maheswary M.N., Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SHOUGAT ROY, resident of C 307, Nitesh Forest Hills, Whitefield, Bangalore Kadugodi, Bangalore 560067 have changed my minor daughter's name from **SHIVANSHI ROY** to **SHIVANSHI CHAKRABORTY ROY** vide Affidavit dated 02-01-2025 sworn before advocate and notary Deepa .M, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MAREESWARI BASKARPANDIAN**, W/o Late. Baskara Pandian S, residing at: # 831, 8th Main, 5th Block, BEL Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, have changed my name to **MAREESWARI BASKARA PANDIAN** Vide affidavit dated: 03.01.2025 before advocate and notary K.V. Nanjaiah, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **TEJASSWINI SURESHA**, Residing at No.052, Hennur Main Road Classis Royale Garden Kalayanagar, Bengaluru-560043, have changed my name to **TEJASSWINI SURESH** Vide affidavit dated: 27.12.2024 before notary H.G. PADMANABHA RAO, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Naveen Kumar. T. K, S/o Sri Krishna Murthy. T, aged about 38 years, residing at No.544, Committee Quarters, Near Oorgaum Post Office, KGF-563120, KGF Taluk, Kolar District, hereby declare that my names **Naveen Kumar. T. K and Tulasiram Krishana Murthy Naveena Kumar** belongs to one and the same person, henceforth, I have decided to continue my name in future as **Naveen Kumar. T. K,** vide affidavit dated: 31.12.2024 before notary THANGARAJ.S, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, **DEEPAK MAANE.C** & **SWETHA EARAPPA** Father and Mother of **GYANVI DEETHA** Residing at No 405, 4th Floor, Sai Ganesh Nilaya, Apartment, Harlur Road, Parappana Agrahara, Electronic City, Bengaluru-560100 Have Changed My Daughter's Name from **GYANVI DEEPAK** (old name) to **GYANVI DEETHA** (new name) Vide Affidavit Dated: 03-01-2025 Before Notary, Sivakumara.M.N, Bengalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **FREEDA ASHA** residing at No,86, 2nd Floor, 3rd Cross, Lakshmaiah Block, Ganganagar, R.T.Nagar Post, Bangalore-560032, have changed my name from **FREEDA ASHA M** (old name) to **FREEDA ASHA** (new name) vide affidavit dated-02-01-2025 before Notary, Sivakumara.M.N, Bangalore.

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) MOHAMMED JABEER KHAN** S/o Azmath Ulla Khan, Residing at No.355, 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, 3rd Main Road, Tippunagar, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) MOHAMMED JABEER KHAN** to **(NEW NAME) MOHAMMED JABIR KHAN** vide affidavit dated 31.12.2024 sworn before Notary T.Mallikarjuna, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JYOTHI MURALIDHAR GN,** spouse of **G. NARASIMHA MURTHY MURALIDHAR,** resident of 21, 9th Cross, Kote Nanjamma Layout, Lakshmipura Main Road, Abbigere, Chikkabanavara, Bengaluru- 560090. I have changed my Name from **"JYOTHI MURALIDHAR GN"** to **"JYOTHI MURALIDHAR"** vide affidavit dated 02 January 2025 at Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAGASHREE .G.S,** age 20 years, D/o Sri G. Srinivasa, R/at No. 440, 2nd Main, 7th Cross, RBI Layout, J.P. Nagar 7th Phase, Bengaluru-78 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RAGASHREE** to **RAGASHREE .G.S,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **RAGASHREE .G.S** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 16th December 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **ARAVIND PATIL .G.G** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KSHAMA SHRIKANTH,** W/o Sri Shrikanth S.V, age 49 years, R/at No. 754, 10th Min, 3rd Block, 3rd State, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560 079 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **KSHAMA S M** to **KSHAMA SHRIKANTH,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **KSHAMA SHRIKANTH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 24th Dec. 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **L. VEENA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Sree Dr. Nischalanandanatha Swamiji,** Vishwa Okkaligara Mahasamsthana Mutt, 18th Kilometer, Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru-560 060 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Dr. Nagaraja .H.L. to **Dr. Nischalanandanatha Swamiji,** also changed the Mutt new address to **Vishwa Okkaligara Mahasamsthana Mutt, 18th Kilometer, Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru-560 060,** vide affidavit dated 21st Dec. 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **S.T. THIPPESWAMY** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AMULYA GADENNAVAR S.** aged 30 years, residing at CTS 7647/A, Sector-12, Mahantesh Nagar, Shivaji Nagar, Belgaum-590016, have changed my name from **AMULYA GADENNAVAR** to **AMULYA GADENNAVAR S.** vide affidavit dated 02-01-2025 sworn before Notary **DEEPA M.** BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ROHINI VENKATESH,** D/o. B S Venkatesh and Residing at No. 2/8, 2nd Main Road, Govindarajanagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560 040, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RADHIKA VENKATESH** to **ROHINI VENKATESH** vide affidavit dated 4.11.2024 sworn to before M. Radhamma, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, JAYANTHI D/o Ex.SGT, (Late) K.V. RAMDASS No. 24060 R/A. No. 203. South Road, Austin Town, Bengaluru-47. have changed my name to **R. JAYANTHI MALA,** vide Affidavit dated 31/12/24 before Notary M. Narendran, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **U S Shreya Ponnappa,** aged 22, residing at Kanasu, No. 903, 11th Main, AGB Layout, Hesaraghatta Main Road, Chikkabanavara, Bangalore – 560090, hereby certify that my correct name, as per all my original documents, is **U S Shreya Ponnappa.** However, in my 10th, PUC, and degree marks cards, my name is mentioned as **Shreya U S.** This discrepancy has been noted, and I confirm that my correct name is **U S SHREYA PONNAPPA.** This declaration is made on 26th December 2024 in the presence of Notary and Advocate V. Anjanappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **K.S. PRASAD,** age 46 years, S/o Susilan Nair, R/o Flat # C103, Prince Town Royale, Airforce Road, Shettihalli, Jalahalli West, Bengaluru-560 015 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PRASAD** to **K.S. PRASAD,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **K.S. PRASAD** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 21st Dec. 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **PUTTARAMAIAH** at Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PRAKASH BABULAL JAIN,** S/o Babulal Jain, R/at No. 32, 4th Cross, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PRAKASH KUMAR BABULAL JAIN** to **PRAKASH BABULAL JAIN,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **PRAKASH BABULAL JAIN** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 02nd Jan 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, BIPLAB MOHAPATRA, residing at No. G 65 H-Block Sonestaa Meadows, Thubarahalli Ext Rd, Whitefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560066, have changed my minor Son's Name from **VIVAAN MOHAPATRA** to **RUDRA MOHAPATRA** vide affidavit dated 03.01.2025 sworn before Notary Yankoba Advocate & Notary, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **NARAYANA .S,** Aged about 50 years, S/o. Late Subbaiah, residing at No. E26/135, Srinidhi Nilaya, 1st Cross, Allalasandra, GKVK, Bengaluru - 560 065, do hereby declare that, **NARAYAN .S** and **NARAYANA .S** both are the names refer to the same person both the my name only. Hereinafter in future my name shall be read in all correspondence as **NARAYANA .S** vide affidavit dated 11.11.2024 sworn to before G.R. Ravichandra Reddy, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, LOKESH R (New Name), S/o. Late. Ramakrishna K, residing at No. 1, 1st Cross, Behind Gottigere Road, Jambu Savari Dinne, Near Doddamma Temple, J.P.Nagar 8th Phase, Bangalore -560076, Karnataka, India, that I have changed my name from LOKESHA R (Old Name) to LOKESH R (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as LOKESH R (New Name) only for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 03/01/2025, before Notary H.S. DHARMA PRASAD, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHAZIA SHADAB,** D/o. Obedulla Sharief and Residing at No. 02, GREEN VILLA, 1st Floor, Yamin Manzil, 1st Cross, 1st Main, BTM 1st Stage, NG Palya, Banerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560 029, Karnataka, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHAZIYA BEGUM** to **SHAZIA SHADAB** vide affidavit dated 2.1.2025 sworn to before M. Radhamma, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RUTHU S MANJANBAIL D/o. Sathyanarayana M.K.,** Residing at No. 235, 1st Cross, 5th Main, Kumara swamy Layout, 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560078. Have changed my name from **RUTHU SATHYANARAYANA MANJANBAIL (Old Name)** To **RUTHU S MANJANBAIL (New Name),** vide affidavit dated 28-12-2024, Sworn made before Advocate & Notary L. Puttaraju, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SERVICE NO.JC-311653A, SUB, SHAJI K, Residing at Kozhimadathil House, Sivapuram (Vill), Karumala (Post), Thamarassery (Tehsil), Kozhikode (Dist), KERALA (State), PIN: 673612, Have Changed My Name Son **(OLD NAME) SHAROON KRISHANA KM** to **(NEW NAME) SHAROON KRISHNA KM** Vide Affidavit Dated 24.12.2024 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DEEPAK KUMAR .N.V,** S/o Late Venkatesh .N.N, age 42 years, R/at No. 174/179, 2A Cross, Ramakrishna Garden, New BEL Road, Bangalore-560 054 do hereby declare that I have changed my minor daughter's name from **SAI DEESHA ND** to **SAI DEESHA DEEPAK KUMAR,** henceforth she shall be known and called as **SAI DEESHA DEEPAK KUMAR** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 23rd Dec. 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **RAVI .S** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PUSHPA PRAKASH JAIN,** W/o Prakash Babulal Jain, R/at No. 32, 4th Cross, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **PUSHPA JAIN** to **PUSHPA PRAKASH JAIN,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **PUSHPA PRAKASH JAIN** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 02nd Jan 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, BIPLAB MOHAPATRA, residing at No. G 65 H-Block Sonestaa Meadows, Thubarahalli Ext Rd, Whitefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560066, have changed my minor Son's Name from **IVAAN MOHAPATRA** to **DHANUSH MOHAPATRA** vide affidavit dated 03.01.2025 sworn before Notary Yankoba Advocate & Notary, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, SHASHI KUMAR.C & Smt. SWETHA.R, R/at No.1C, 11th Cross, Opp. All Day Hyper Market, Banjara Layout, Horamavu Agara, Horamavu Post, Bangalore-560 043, hereby declare that we have changed our Son's name from **KALPITH S SRIVATSA** to **KALPITH.S.** Vide affidavit dated: 21/11/2024, sworn before Notary Srinatha.D.R, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I MEGHA KURUP W/O DEEPU KURUP residing at NO 64 Springvillae,Harlur Kudlu Road, Kudlu, Bangalore 560068, hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my Name from MEGHA RAMESHAN TO MEGHA KURUP. I hereby request all concerned to address me as MEGHA KURUP in all future correspondence and documentation. Vide Affidavit dated 03 January 2025 Sworn in before Notary S.SUBASHINI.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **JAYASHREE,** aged about 63 years, W/o.late S.Mohan Rao, presently R/a No. 34, 8th Cross, Ashirwad Colony, Horamavu, B'lore-43 state that, my original and actual name is Jayashree and that my name has been differently entered in records as Jayashree MohanRao and that the aforesaid names belong to me and are not addressed to any other person/s, same is sworn to before Notary Sri B. Prasanna vide Affidavit, dated 13.12.2024.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SRI RAVIKUMAR,** aged about 38 years, S/o Rangaswamy, residing at 1st Ward, New Ganigara Street, Somavarapete Village and Post, Chamarajanagar-571313. Hereby declare that, I have changed my minor Son's (Date of birth 27.03.2020) name from **LITHVIK. R** to **ADITHYA. R,** vide Affidavit dated 02.01.2025, Sworn before Advocate and Notary C.R. Seetharam, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, GIREESH N, aged 39 years, S/o. Nataraju C V, Residing at No.169, Reddi Gerei Beedi, M G Road Cross, Channapatana, Ramanagar, Karnataka-562160, have changed my name to **GIRISHA N,** Vide affidavit dated 02.01.2025 sworn before Notary K.V.MANI, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SURESH JANGID,** S/o Rampal, R/at No. 35, 5th Main, Panchsheela Nagar, Pattegar Palya, Vijaynagar, Bangalore-560 079 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SURESH** to **SURESH JANGID,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SURESH JANGID** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 2nd Jan 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **UMAKANTH LAXMANDIXIT PURANIK,** aged about 61 years, S/o. Laxmandixit Shankardixit Puranik, residing at Madhushree Kote Bidi, Near Venkataswamy Temple, Kodigegehalli, Bangalore North, Sahakaranagar Po, Bangalore, Karnataka-560092, do hereby declare that the my names **UMAKANTH LAXMANDIXIT PURANIK** and **UMAKANTA LAXMANDIXIT PURANIK** and **UMAKANT LAXMANDIXIT PURANIK** as mentioned in various documents belongs to me and refer to the same person, and that my correct name is **UMAKANTH LAXMANDIXIT PURANIK,** vide affidavit dated 02.01.2025, sworn to before K.V. Nanjaiah, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAVINDRA HEGADAL,** S/o. Basavarajappa Hegadal, resident of No. 2261, Basavaraja Nilaya, Vidya Nagar, Near Court, Hirekerur, Haveri District-581111 camp at Bangalore, Karnataka State, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RAVINDRA** to **RAVINDRA HEGADAL,** vide affidavit dated 02.01.2025, sworn to before C.K. Anupama, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

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'Pinaka will be a perfect blend of tradition and contemporary appeal'

A still from the film

CE FEATURES

GANESH, a celebrated name in Kannada cinema, is gearing up for an exciting new chapter with his upcoming film *Pinaka*. After the massive success of *Krishnam Pranaya Sakhi*, he has been in the spotlight, and now, with *Pinaka*, the actor promises to showcase a never-before-seen avatar. The film's title teaser, which was released on January 2, has already generated significant buzz, offering a glimpse of Ganesh in this daring new look. The first-look poster of the film will be revealed soon, and fans can expect it to be a game-changer. Ganesh expresses his excitement, stating that the film, with its intense visuals and grand scale, will offer a completely different experience for his fans and the audience at large.

Pinaka marks the 49th film under the banner People Media Factory. The actor is excited to reveal his unique role in this adventurous, action-packed film. Speaking about the shifting trends in cinema, emphasising how films today need to maintain a balance between tradition and contemporary appeal, Ganesh says *Pinaka* is a perfect example of this blend.

Team Pinaka

Ganesh shares that *Pinaka* has been in the works for over two and a half years, allowing the team to meticulously craft every aspect of the movie in the preparation stage. He explains that while the film is deeply rooted in cultural themes, it also integrates modern elements to make it appealing to a broader audience. This fusion of tradition and innovation is something Ganesh believes will resonate well with audiences.

In terms of his performance, Ganesh promises a major departure from his usual roles. For the first time, he will be seen in a fierce, intense character that is a stark contrast to his past romantic hero portrayals. This shift is set to redefine his career and give fans a refreshing perspective on his acting range.

Pinaka is expected to release both in Kannada and Telugu, and Ganesh is hopeful that his collaboration with director Dhananjay, the dance choreographer turned director, and producer TG Vishwaprasad will create something extraordinary. He admits that while this project is ambitious, he is confident that the hard work put in by the entire team will lead to a successful and entertaining experience for the audience.

Ganesh expresses his gratitude and optimism as he reflects on his journey so far. He is genuinely excited about the evolving direction of cinema and is confident that *Pinaka* will bring something fresh and captivating to the screen. With all the hard work and dedication invested by the team, he believes the film will be a memorable experience for the audience.

A still from the film

Sidlingu 2 to release this Valentines Day

CE FEATURES

SIDLINGU 2, directed by Vijaya Prasad of *Neer Dose* and *Thothapuri* fame, is all set to hit the big screen this Valentine's Day (February 14). It is billed as a wholesome family entertainer.

The film has completed its shooting phase and is now in the final stages of post-production, with dubbing already wrapped up. This sequel comes 12 years after *Sidlingu*, directed by Vijaya Prasad and starring Yogi and Ramya. It brings back several beloved characters from the first film, including Suman Ranganath as Andalamma. It is produced by SriHari Reddy of Once Upon a Time in *Jamaligudda* fame, under the Niharika Movies banner, in association with Raju Shereghar. The sequel pairs Yogi with Sonu Gowda, marking their first on-screen collaboration. The team is preparing to unveil the first look of Sonu Gowda in the coming week followed by the release of a lyrical video of one of the songs, with plans to unveil the full video of another track closer to release date.

GHOSTHUNTER GAURAV TIWARI'S STORY INSPIRED MY FILM: NAVANEETH

Choo Mantar director talks about his upcoming film, Sharan's role, and the making process ahead of its release

A SHARADHAA

AFTER the success of his debut horror film *Karvva*, director Navaneeth is back with another project, titled *Choo Mantar*. This time, he promises to take the genre a notch higher with a gripping narrative and a fresh perspective on horror. "Sharan, known for his versatility and comedic roles, wanted to step out of his comfort zone and try something new—he was eager to dive into a full-fledged horror film. When he heard the story, he was immediately onboard," says Navaneeth, explaining how the film came to life. Produced by Manasa Tarun and Tarun Shivappa under the banner of Tarun Studios, Choo Mantar is set to release on January 10.

Reflecting on the journey after *Karvva*'s success, Navaneeth shares how the film opened doors for him. "After *Karvva* became a hit, several actors approached me with similar ideas. It felt like the right time to cater to those requests, and that's how Choo Mantar took shape," he explains. While many would describe horror as a familiar genre, Navaneeth emphasises that the film is carefully crafted for modern-day audiences. "The content is designed to meet the expectations of today's viewers, focusing on high-quality filmmaking with a perfect blend of horror and entertainment."

The title *Choo Mantar* itself is a fictional name for a company created by a group of ghost hunters. When asked if he researched real-life ghost hunters, Navaneeth draws inspiration from the late Gaurav Tiwari, a famous ghost hunter in India. "His story deeply inspired me. While *Choo Mantar* is a work of fiction, I incorporated some of his traits into the lead role," he recalls, adding that Tiwari's mysterious death and career became a source of inspiration for the film.

Navaneeth

When it comes to horror, Navaneeth believes the genre doesn't rely on star power or action-packed heroes. "Horror is about the actors and the situation, about creating an atmosphere of fear and keeping the audience engaged," he explains. For Sharan, known for his comedic roles, the shift to a horror film marks a significant departure. "After Guru Shishyaru, Sharan wanted to try something different. When he heard the story, he was ready to explore this darker territory," says Navaneeth. *Choo Mantar* will be Sharan's first full-fledged horror film, showcasing his versatility in a completely new light.

The film also features Aditi Prabhudeva, Chikkanna, Meghana Gaonkar, Prabhu Mundkur, and Rajani Bharadwaj, who bring their characters to life in this supernatural adventure. With sound design by Oscar-winner Resul Pookutty, *Choo Mantar* promises an immersive audio experience that will add to its chilling atmosphere. The film's music is composed by Avinash Basuthkar, with Chandan Shetty composing the introduction track. Anup Kattukaran handles the cinematography, and Venki UDV takes care of the editing.

Like most horror films, *Choo Mantar* faced its share of production hurdles. Navaneeth reveals that the very nature of the genre affected the film's production in an inexplicable way.

A still from the film

Guru Nandan to play a stand-up comedian in *Mr Jack*

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Guru Nandan, who recently launched his production company, Mandimane Talkies, is working on a new film with his friends. The project was launched months ago when Ashwini Puneeth Rajkumar gave the clap for the film. The shooting has now reached its final stages.

The title of the film has been revealed as *Mr Jack*, and the story and screenplay for the film were written and directed by debutant Sumanth Gowda. Sumanth reveals, "When I first pitched the story to Guru Nandan, he liked it and decided to produce it. The lead character is named Janakiram. Stand-up comedians usually have shorter stage names, so the protagonist uses the name *Mr Jack*. It's a romantic comedy and family drama, and we're showing a different side of Guru Nandan in the film. There are four songs in the film."

Sumanth Gowda

Guru Nandan says, "No one has made a film about a stand-up comedian in Kannada before, and we're attempting to do that with this movie. I felt we should definitely produce this film, because I know it has a great story. Our friends have all joined as producers, and we've completed most of the shooting, with about 75 per cent of it done around Bengaluru. The final phase of shooting will start in the first week of January. Except for one song, the rest of the shooting will be wrapped up in January. Thanks to the team's cooperation and encouragement, the film has turned out well."

Elaborating on the premise of the film, Guru Nandan shares, "This is a story about the life of a comedian. The hero is a stand-up comedian, and we're trying to convey the pain behind his humor. Despite any pain we have, making everyone laugh without showing it is a huge challenge. In my previous films, humour was created through dialogue. But here, we've worked hard to make it more natural and immediate. Even though the directors are new, they are working with the dedication and commitment of experienced professionals. They don't stop until they achieve the desired outcome."

The film features Thapaswini Poonacha, known for Harikathe Alla Girikathe, as the female lead. She shares, "My role is full of suspense. This film is not just a comedy; it also has a lot of sentiment."

The film also stars Mithra, Dharmanna Kadur, Gopalakrishna Deshpande, Giri, Sushmitha, and popular stand-up comedian Karthik Patthar. The music for the film is composed by Kiran Ravindranath, and the cinematography is by Shiv Sena.

A still from the film

A still from the film

PRAJWAL DEVARAJ'S *RAKSHASA* SET FOR SHIVARATRI RELEASE

CE FEATURTES

PRAJWAL Devaraj takes on a gripping new challenge with *Rakshasa*, a time-loop horror film directed by Lohith H. After pushing back its release, the film is now set to hit theatres on Shivaratri, February 26. Directed by the makers of Mummy Save Me and Devaki, *Rakshasa* promises to offer a fresh blend of horror with a unique concept. In the film, Prajwal portrays the role of a father trapped in a relentless cycle, desperately fighting to protect his child from an unknown and terrifying force. Upon its release, the teaser sparked strong interest, hinting at the intense thriller that awaits audiences.

Produced by Deepu BS, Naveen Gowda, and Manas under Shanvi Enterprises, Rakshasa features a talented supporting cast, including Arun Rathod, Sridhar, Gautam, Somashekar, and Vihaan Krishna. With music by Nobin Paul and cinematography by Jaybin P Jacob, the film is set to deliver a thrilling cinematic experience.